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22 January 1998

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GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fifty-second session
Agenda item 61
QUESTION OF CYPRUS

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-third year

Letter dated 20 January 1998 from the Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith a letter dated 19 January 1998, addressed to you by His Excellency Mr. Aytuğ Plümer, Representative of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus.

I should be grateful if the text of the present letter and its annex would be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 61, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Hüseyin E. ÇELEM
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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ANNEX

Letter dated 19 January 1998 from Mr. Aytuğ Plümer addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to refer to the letters dated 5 and 14 January 1998 addressed to you by the Greek Cypriot representative at the United Nations, which contain allegations regarding the "violation of the national airspace of the Republic" (A/52/761-S/1998/12 and A/52/767-S/1998/33).

I would like to recall that similar charges of so-called "airspace violations" rejected in toto in our successive communications addressed to you, most recently in my letter dated 4 December 1997 (A/52/712-S/1997/961, annex). Since the present Greek Cypriot allegations are no different from or more credible than those previously made, they do not merit a detailed reply. I wish to reiterate briefly, however, that flights within the airspace of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus take place with the full knowledge and consent of the appropriate authorities of the State, over which the usurper Greek Cypriot regime in the South has no jurisdiction or right of say whatsoever.

The Greek Cypriot side is pursuing its relentless campaign of propaganda aimed at providing a smokescreen for its lack of political will to settle the Cyprus issue. The Greek Cypriot side, which has never come to terms with the concept of power-sharing with the Turkish Cypriot side on the basis of equality, has thus far paid lip-service to your mission of good offices so long as the framework has essentially not challenged the Greek Cypriot pretence that they are the "Government" and the Turkish Cypriot side is a mere "community". Since the Luxembourg decision of the European Union (EU), taken last month has unfortunately upheld this false premise, the parameters for a settlement of the Cyprus question have been severely undermined, as the Greek Cypriot side is able to proceed with its unilateral drive towards membership of EU in the name of "Cyprus", in total contravention of the 1960 Agreements on Cyprus and the internal and external balances established by those Agreements.

Another basic objective of the Greek Cypriot administration in making these allegations is to divert attention from its policy of escalation and tension on the island. It is noteworthy, in this context, that the Greek Cypriot leader, Mr. Glafcos Clerides, has recently announced that the new Paphos military airbase in South Cyprus would be ready for delivery on 24 January 1998 for use by the Greek air force as part of the "joint defence doctrine" with Greece (Greek Cypriot daily, The Cyprus Mail, of 9 January 1998). This new and dangerous development shows that the offensive launched by the Greek-Greek Cypriot front in 1963 in order to destroy the 1960 Agreements on Cyprus, and the internal and external balances, is still continuing.

It is high time that all those interested in a peaceful settlement of the Cyprus question acknowledge the realities on the island and refrain from assisting the Greek Cypriots in upholding the myth that they are the sole, legitimate "Government" and have sovereignty over the whole island.

I should be grateful if the text of the present letter could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 61, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Aytuğ PLUMER
Representative
Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus

UNITED
NATIONS

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General Assembly

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A/52/774
22 January 1998

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Fifty-second session
Agenda items 39 and 81

OCEANS AND THE LAW OF THE SEA

MAINTENANCE OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

Letter dated 20 January 1998 from the Permanent Representatives of Bulgaria and Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

We have the honour to transmit herewith the text of a joint statement on the Agreement between the Republic of Turkey and the Republic of Bulgaria on the determination of the boundary in the mouth of the Rezovska/Mutludere River and delimitation of the maritime areas between the two States in the Black Sea, signed by the Prime Ministers of the two countries on 4 December 1997 at Sofia (see annex).

We should be grateful if you would have the text of the present letter and its annex circulated as an official document of the fifty-second session of the General Assembly under agenda items 39 and 81.

(Signed) Philip DIMITROV
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of
the Republic of Bulgaria
to the United Nations

(Signed) Hüseyin E. ÇELEM
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of
the Republic of Turkey
to the United Nations

ANNEX

Joint statement on the Agreement between the Republic of Turkey and the Republic of Bulgaria on the determination of the boundary in the mouth of the Rezovska/Mutludere River and delimitation of the maritime areas between the two States in the Black Sea

The issue regarding the determination of the boundary in the mouth of the Rezovska/Mutludere River and delimitation of maritime areas in the Rezovo/Begendik Bay, of territorial waters, as well as the continental shelf and exclusive economic zones between Bulgaria and Turkey had been pending for over 40 years. It had been discussed during many bilateral meetings since 1964.

The Agreement between the Republic of Turkey and the Republic of Bulgaria on the determination of the boundary in the mouth of the Rezovska/Mutludere River and delimitation of the maritime areas between the two States in the Black Sea was signed by Prime Ministers Mesut Yilmaz and Ivan Kostov at Sofia on 4 December 1997.

With the signing of the Agreement, this long-standing issue between Bulgaria and Turkey has been resolved. This provides new impetus to the development of Turkish-Bulgarian relations, which are already at a very positive stage.

This has been achieved as a result of the Bulgarian and Turkish authorities displaying the necessary political will. The Agreement, signed at the level of Prime Ministers, was concluded after meaningful and comprehensive negotiations conducted with goodwill within the above-mentioned framework. The provisions of the Agreement pertaining to delimitation of areas where the two countries exercise sovereignty, sovereign rights or jurisdiction encompass just and mutually acceptable solutions satisfying the legitimate interests of both sides.

In fact, the willingness of Turkey and Bulgaria to achieve just and mutually acceptable solutions to existing bilateral issues through constructive negotiations and in the spirit of good-neighbourly relations has been emphasized in the preamble of the Agreement.

The signing of this Agreement between Bulgaria and Turkey is ample proof that long-standing bilateral problems can be resolved by utilizing the negotiation process envisaged, among other things, as the initial means of peaceful settlement in the Charter of the United Nations.

It is hoped that the spirit of political resolve and goodwill manifested at Sofia will inspire constructive and meaningful discussions between the Balkan countries in order to solve the existing problems in the Balkans.

United Nations A/52/775

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Agenda item 130

Financing of the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus

Report of the Secretary-General

Summary

The present report contains the financial performance report of the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP) for the period from 1 July 1996 to 30 June 1997. An amount totalling $45,079,500 gross ($43,049,600 net) was approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 50/236 of 7 June 1996 for the operation of the Force, including the portion to be met through voluntary contributions from the Governments of Cyprus and Greece. Recorded expenditures amounted to $44,957,700 gross ($42,972,300 net), resulting in unutilized resources of $121,800 gross ($77,300 net). The unutilized balance was offset by an additional obligation of $724,700 pertaining to prior periods, resulting in additional requirements of $602,900 gross ($647,400 net).

The actions to be taken by the General Assembly, as set out in paragraph 9 of the report include: (a) the appropriation of the additional amount of $602,900 gross ($647,400 net) for the period from 1 July 1996 to 30 June 1997, one third of which, equivalent to $215,800, is to be met through voluntary contributions from the Government of Cyprus; and (b) the assessment on Member States of the amount of $387,100 gross ($431,600 net), representing two thirds of the additional cost of the Force for the same period.

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I. Introduction

1. The United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP) was established by the Security Council in its resolution 186 (1964) of 4 March 1964. Its mandate has been extended by subsequent resolutions of the Council, the latest of which is resolution 1117 (1997) of 27 June 1997, by which the Council extended the mandate of the Force to 31 December 1997.

2. The General Assembly, in its resolution 50/236 of 7 June 1996, appropriated the amount of $45,079,500 gross ($43,049,600 net) for the maintenance of UNFICYP for the period from 1 July 1996 to 30 June 1997. This amount was inclusive of the one-third share of the cost of the Force to be met through voluntary contributions from the Government of Cyprus and the annual pledge of $6.5 million from the Government of Greece. By the same resolution, the Assembly decided to assess the amount of $24,229,633 gross ($22,199,733 net) on Member States.

II. Financial performance report for the period from 1 July 1996 to 30 June 1997

3. Annex I, column 1, to the present report sets out by budget line item the budget estimates for maintaining UNFICYP for the period from 1 July 1996 to 30 June 1997, as contained in annex I to document A/50/722/Add.1 of 26 February 1996. Column 2 reflects the apportionment of the resources provided to UNFICYP during the period from 1 July 1996 to 30 June 1997 pursuant to General Assembly resolution 50/236. The expenditures recorded for the period are shown in column 5 by budget line item. Related unliquidated obligations are reflected in column 6. Variances between the apportionment of resources, by budget line item, and the actual expenditures are shown in column 7 and result in additional requirements of $602,900 gross ($647,400 net).

4. Supplementary information on the financial performance report is presented in annex II. The planned and actual deployment of civilian and military personnel for the reporting period is contained in annex III. Annex IV provides the authorized staffing, incumbency and vacancy rates for civilian and military personnel for the reporting period. The planned and actual hours flown by helicopters used in the mission during the reporting period are presented in annex V.

5. As shown in annex I, column 2, the total resources made available to UNFICYP for the period from 1 July 1996 to 30 June 1997 amount to $45,079,500 gross ($43,049,600 net). Expenditures for the period (column 5) are $44,957,700 gross ($42,972,300 net), of which $17,762,900 relate to unliquidated obligations. These expenditures excluded an additional unrecorded expenditure of $724,700 relating to an outstanding claim from the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland for logistic support provided to UNFICYP during the period from 1 January to 31 December 1995. As a result, additional resources in the amount of $602,900 gross ($647,400 net) are required.

6. The expenditures incurred during the reporting period under the following budget headings were less than their estimated cost: military personnel costs ($685,600), premises and accommodation ($258,900), infrastructure repairs ($201,400), transport operations ($221,300), air operations ($8,100), communications ($121,300), other equipment ($14,000) and staff assessment ($44,500).

7. The above savings were realized mainly from lower than projected average troop strength and reduced costs for troop rotation; lower costs for alterations and maintenance of premises; reduction in utility consumption; reduced costs for the maintenance of the patrol track; lower costs for vehicle parts and maintenance; lower than projected aviation fuel costs; reduction in surplus communication lines and reduced requirements for communications equipment; reduction in procurement of miscellaneous equipment and parts and lower maintenance costs; and savings for staff assessment owing to an average 6 per cent vacancy rate for civilian personnel.

8. During the reporting period, additional resources were required for civilian personnel costs ($1,044,800), supplies and services ($45,500) and air and surface freight ($41,000). Additional expenditures resulted from unanticipated increases in the local salary scale; increased requirements for official travel; higher than estimated costs for contractual services and claims; and freight to transport surplus mission stocks from the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi to the mission area. In addition, expenditures include an amount of $302,000 representing the ad hoc prorated share of UNFICYP in the financing of the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi for the period from 1 July 1996 to 30 June 1997.

III. Action to be taken by the General Assembly at its fifty-second session

9. The actions to be taken by the General Assembly at its resumed fifty-second session in connection with the financing of UNFICYP are as follows:

(a) The appropriation of the additional amount of $602,900 gross ($647,400 net) for the period from 1 July 1996 to 30 June 1997, one third of which, equivalent to $215,800, is to be met through voluntary contributions from the Government of Cyprus;

(b) The assessment on Member States of the amount of $387,100 gross ($431,600 net), representing two thirds of the additional cost of the Force for the period from 1 July 1996 to 30 June 1997.

Annex I
Financial performance report for the period from 1 July 1996 to 30 June 1997

(Thousands of United States dollars)

	(1) Original cost estimates	(2) Apportionment	(3) Non-recurrent expenditures	(4) Recurrent expenditures	(5) Total expenditures (3 + 4)	(6) Unliquidated obligations	(7) Variances (2-5)
1. Military personnel costs							
(a) Military observers	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Military contingents							
Standard troop cost reimbursement	15 150.6	15 114.3		14 955.3	15 006.3	11 832.6	108.0
Welfare	241.0	240.4		244.0	244.0	28.0	(3.6)
Rations	2 761.6	2 755.0		2 437.7	2 437.7	755.6	317.3
Daily allowance	579.1	577.7		548.0	548.0	65.7	29.7
Mission subsistence allowance	—	—			—	—	—
Emplacement, rotation and repatriation of troops	2 106.0	2 100.9		1917.7	1 917.7	333.4	183.2
Clothing and equipment allowance	1 038.4	1 035.9		1 035.9	984.9	789.3	51.0
Subtotal	**21 876.7**	**21 824.2**	**—**	**21 138.6**	**21 138.6**	**13 804.6**	**685.6**
(c) Other costs pertaining to military personnel							
Contingent-owned equipment	1 668.6	1 668.6		1 668.6	1 668.6	1 587.4	—
Death and disability compensation	200.0	200.0		200.0	200.0	200.0	200.0
Subtotal	**1 868.6**	**1868.6**	**—**	**1 868.6**	**1 868.6**	**1 787.4**	**—**
Total, line 1	**23 745.3**	**23 692.8**	**—**	**23 007.2**	**23 007.2**	**15 592.0**	**685.6**
2. Civilian personnel costs							
(a) Civilian police							
Mission subsistence allowance	195.8	195.3		190.4	190.4	15.0	4.9
Travel costs	148.5	148.1		25.2	25.2	7.4	122.9
Clothing and equipment allowance	7.0	7.0		6.6	6.6	0.2	0.4
Subtotal	**351.3**	**350.4**	**—**	**222.2**	**222.2**	**22.6**	**128.2**
(b) International and local staff							
International staff salaries	2 532.3	2 530.1		2 199.1	2 199.1	—	331.0
Local staff salaries	4 078.4	4 072.4		4 977.6	4 977.6	1.2	(905.2)
Consultants	—	—		16.2	16.2	8.9	(16.2)
Overtime	—	—		34.3	34.3	—	(34.3)
General temporary assistance	—	—			—	—	—
Common staff costs	3 284.0	3 276.1		3 800.1	3 800.1	146.2	(524.0)
Mission subsistence allowance	—	—			—	—	—
Other travel costs	147.9	147.5		171.8	171.8	22.9	(24.3)
Subtotal	**10 042.6**	**10 026.1**	**—**	**11 199.1**	**11 199.1**	**179.2**	**(1 173.0)**
(c) International contractual personnel	—	—			—	—	—
(d) United Nations Volunteers	—	—			—	—	—
(e) Government-provided personnel	—	—			—	—	—
(f) Civilian electoral observers	—	—			—	—	—
Total, line 2	**10 393.9**	**10 376.5**	**—**	**11 421.3**	**11 421.3**	**201.8**	**(1 044.8)**

	(1) Original cost estimates	(2) Apportionment	(3) Non-recurrent expenditures	(4) Recurrent expenditures	(5) Total expenditures (3 + 4)	(6) Unliquidated obligations	(7) Variances (2-5)
3. Premises/accommodation							
Rental of premises	1.8	1.8			—	—	1.8
Alteration and renovation of premises	146.7	146.3	112.7		112.7	91.1	33.6
Maintenance supplies	—	—			—	—	—
Maintenance services	254.6	254.0		233.6	233.6	57.4	20.4
Utilities	1 174.6	1 171.8		968.7	968.7	217.8	203.1
Construction/prefabricated buildings	—	—			—	—	—
Total, line 3	**1 577.7**	**1 573.9**	**112.7**	**1 202.3**	**1 315.0**	**366.3**	**258.9**
4. Infrastructure repairs							
Upgrading of airstrips	—	—			—	—	—
Upgrading of roads	600.0	598.6	397.2		397.2	102.1	201.4
Repair of bridges	—	—			—	—	—
Total, line 4	**600.0**	**598.6**	**397.2**	**—**	**397.2**	**102.1**	**201.4**
5. Transport operations							
Purchase of vehicles	28.5	28.4	5.5		5.5	5.5	22.9
Rental of vehicles	895.4	893.3		1 028.2	1 028.2	98.6	(134.9)
Workshop equipment	7.4	7.4	2.3		2.3	—	5.1
Spare parts, repairs and maintenance	435.0	434.0		197.3	197.3	151.3	236.7
Petrol, oil and lubricants	380.1	379.2		296.6	296.6	83.2	82.6
Vehicle insurance	56.5	56.4		47.5	47.5	—	8.9
Total, line 5	**1 802.9**	**1798.7**	**7.8**	**1 569.6**	**1 577.4**	**338.6**	**221.3**
6. Air operations							
(a) Helicopter operations							
Hire/charter costs	972.0	969.7		969.7	969.7	178.3	—
Aviation fuel and lubricants	34.8	34.7		26.6	26.6	9.8	8.1
Positioning/depositioning costs	—	—			—	—	—
Resupply flights	—	—			—	—	—
Painting/preparation	—	—			—	—	—
Liability and war-risk insurance	4.4	4.4		4.4	4.4	—	—
Subtotal	**1 011.2**	**1 008.8**	**—**	**1 000.7**	**1 000.7**	**188.1**	**8.1**
(b) Fixed-wing aircraft	—	—			—	—	—
(c) Air crew subsistence allowance	—	—			—	—	—
(d) Other air operations costs	—	—			—	—	—
Total, line 6	**1 011.2**	**1 008.8**	**—**	**1 000.7**	**1 000.7**	**188.1**	**8.1**
7. Naval operations	**—**	**—**	**—**	**—**	**—**	**—**	**—**
8. Communications							
(a) Complementary communications							
Communications equipment	264.2	263.6	230.7		230.7	106.7	32.9
Spare parts and supplies	109.5	109.2		109.2	109.2	42.3	—
Workshop and test equipment	73.8	73.6	51.5		51.5	16.0	22.1
Commercial communications	383.3	382.4		316.1	316.1	120.0	66.3
Subtotal	**830.8**	**828.8**	**282.2**	**425.3**	**707.5**	**285.0**	**121.3**

	(1) Original cost estimates	(2) Apportionment	(3) Non-recurrent expenditures	(4) Recurrent expenditures	(5) Total expenditures (3 + 4)	(6) Unliquidated obligations	(7) Variances (2-5)
(b) Main trunking contract	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total, line 8	**830.8**	**828.8**	**282.2**	**425.3**	**707.5**	**285.0**	**121.3**
9. Other equipment							
Office furniture	16.4	16.4	16.4		16.4	5.6	—
Office equipment	43.3	43.2	19.9		19.9	4.7	23.3
Data-processing equipment	51.1	51.0	217.7		217.7	164.9	(166.7)
Generators	7.4	7.4	2.3		2.3	—	5.1
Observation equipment	162.3	161.9	123.4		123.4	80.2	38.5
Petrol tank plus metering equipment	—	—			—	—	—
Water and septic tanks	—	—			—	—	—
Medical and dental equipment	—	—			—	—	—
Accommodation equipment	81.9	81.7	69.8		69.8	17.6	11.9
Refrigeration equipment	—	—			—	—	—
Miscellaneous equipment	188.3	187.8	86.5		86.5	32.0	101.3
Field defence equipment	—	—			—	—	—
Spare parts, repairs and maintenance	86.6	86.4	85.8		85.8	27.4	0.6
Water-purification equipment					—	—	—
Total, line 9	**637.3**	**635.8**	**621.8**	**—**	**621.8**	**332.4**	**14.0**
10. Supplies and services							
(a) Miscellaneous services							
Audit services	28.2	28.1		28.1	28.1	28.1	—
Contractual services	565.2	563.8		634.7	634.7	64.8	(70.9)
Data-processing services	—	—			—	—	—
Security Services	—	—			—	—	—
Medical treatment and services	140.0	139.7		65.7	65.7	1.2	74.0
Claims and adjustments	43.4	43.3		157.7	157.7	109.6	(114.4)
Official hospitality	4.0	4.0		4.0	4.0	—	—
Miscellaneous other services	71.4	71.2		158.6	158.6	13.6	(87.4)
Subtotal	**852.2**	**850.1**	**—**	**1 048.8**	**1 048.8**	**217.3**	**(198.7)**
(b) Miscellaneous supplies							
Stationery and office supplies	132.6	132.3		96.1	96.1	15.5	36.2
Medical supplies	90.9	90.7		57.7	57.7	12.3	33.0
Sanitation and cleaning materials	95.4	95.2		94.5	94.5	12.3	0.7
Subcriptions	19.7	19.7		21.7	21.7	3.1	(2.0)
Electrical supplies	—	—			—	—	—
Ballistic-protective blankets for vehicles	—	—			—	—	—
Uniform items, flags and decals	85.9	85.7	40.6		40.6	30.8	45.1
Field defence stores	75.5	75.3		29.0	29.0	14.1	46.3
Operational maps	—	—			—	—	—
Quartermaster and general stores	59.6	59.5		65.6	65.6	11.1	(6.1)
Subtotal	**559.6**	**558.4**	**40.6**	**364.6**	**405.2**	**99.2**	**153.2**
Total, line 10	**1 411.8**	**1 408.5**	**40.6**	**1 413.4**	**1 454.0**	**316.5**	**(45.5)**

	(1) Original cost estimates	(2) Apportionment	(3) Non-recurrent expenditures	(4) Recurrent expenditures	(5) Total expenditures (3 + 4)	(6) Unliquidated obligations	(7) Variances (2-5)
11. Election-related supplies and services	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
12. Public information programmes	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
13. Training programmes	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
14. Mine-clearing programmes	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15. Assistance for disarmament and demobilization	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
16. Air and surface freight							
Transport and contingent-owned equipment	44.0	43.9			—	—	43.9
Military airlifts	—	—			—	—	—
Commercial freight and cartage	17.4	17.4		102.3	102.3	40.1	(84.9)
Total, line 16	**61.4**	**61.3**	**—**	**102.3**	**102.3**	**40.1**	**(41.0)**
17. United Nations Logistics Base, Brindisi	—	—	—	**302.0**	**302.0**	—	**(302.0)**
18. Support account for peacekeeping operations	—	**1 065.9**	—	**1 065.9**	**1 065.9**	—	—
19. Staff assessment							
Staff assessment, international staff	2 046.9	859.9		678.1	678.1	—	181.8
Staff assessment, local staff	—	1 170.0		1 307.3	1 307.3	—	(137.3)
Total, line 19	**2 046.9**	**2 029.9**	**—**	**1 985.4**	**1 985.4**	**—**	**44.5**
Total, lines 1-19	**44 119.2**	**45 079.5**	**1 462.3**	**43 495.4**	**44 957.7**	**17 762.9**	**121.8***
20. Income from staff assessment	**(2 046.9)**	**(2 029.9)**	**—**	**(1985.4)**	**(1985.4)**	**—**	**(44.5)**
21. Voluntary contributions in kind					—		—
Total, lines 20-21	**(2 046.9)**	**(2 029.9)**	**—**	**(1985.4)**	**(1985.4)**	**—**	**(44.5)**
Gross requirements	44 119.2	45 079.5	1 462.3	43 495.4	44 957.7	17 762.9	121.8*
Net requirements	42 072.3	43 049.6	1 462.3	41 510.0	42 972.3	17 762.9	77.3*
22. Voluntary contributions in kind (non-budgeted)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total resources	**42 072.3**	**43 049.6**	**1 462.3**	**41 510.0**	**42 972.3**	**17 762.9**	**77.3**

* Unutilized resources were offset by an additional obligation of $724,700 pertaining to prior periods as indicated in paragraph 5 of the report, resulting in additional requirements of $602,900 gross ($647,400).

Annex II
Supplementary information on the financial performance report for the period from 1 July 1996 to 30 June 1997

A. Detailed variances in requirements and costs

Description	Apportionment: Number of units	Apportionment: Unit/daily/monthly/annual cost (United States dollars)	Actual: Number of units	Actual: Unit/daily/monthly/annual cost (United States dollars)	Explanation	Supplementary explanation (para. numbers in sect. B)
1. Military personnel costs						
(a) Military observers		—		—		
(b) Military contingents						
Average strength	1 230		1 168			
Standard troop cost reimbursement		15 114 300		15 006 300	Reduced number of person-days	2
Welfare (total costs)		240 400		244 000	Increased requirements	3
Rations (total costs)		2 755 000		2 437 700	Reduced number of person-days	4
Daily allowance		577 700		548 000	Reduced number of person-days	5
Emplacement, rotation and repatriation of troops		2 100 900		1 917 700	Consolidated travel contract	7
Clothing and equipment allowance		1 035 900		984 900	Lower than estimated average strength	8
(c) Other costs pertaining to military personnel						
Contingent-owned equipment		1 668 600		1 668 600	No change	
Death and disability compensation		200 000		200 000	No change	
2. Civilian personnel costs						
(a) Civilian police						
Average strength	35		35			
Mission subsistence allowance		195 300		190 400	Lower than projected number of person-days	11
Travel costs		148 100		25 200	Reduction in number of rotation trips	12
Clothing and equipment allowance		7 000		6 600	Lower than projected number of person-days	13
(b) International and local staff						
Average strength						
International staff	43		40			
Local staff	318		297			
International staff salaries		2 530 100		2 199 100	Four per cent vacancy rate	14

Description	Apportionment: Number of units	Apportionment: Unit/daily/monthly/annual cost (United States dollars)	Actual: Number of units	Actual: Unit/daily/monthly/annual cost (United States dollars)	Explanation	Supplementary explanation (para. numbers in sect. B)
Local staff salaries		4 072 400		4 977 600	Unbudgeted increases in local salary scale	15
Consultants		—		16 200	Recruitment of legal expert	16
Overtime		—		34 300	Night differential	17
Common staff costs		3 276 100		3 800 100	Unbudgeted increases in allowances for local staff	19
Other travel costs		147 500		171 800	Increased requirements	21
(c) International contractual personnel		—		—		
(d) United Nations Volunteers		—		—		
(e) Government-provided personnel		—		—		
(f) Civilian electoral observers		—		—		
3. Premises/accommodation						
Rental of premises		1 800		—	Non-utilization of funds	26-27
Alteration and renovation of premises		146 300		112 700	Work undertaken at costs lower than budgeted	28
Maintenance services		254 000		233 600	Lower than estimated monthly costs	30
Utilities		1 171 800		968 700	Introduction of economy measures to reduce utility consumption	31
4. Infrastructure repairs						
Upgrading of roads		598 600		397 200	Part of the cost of the project was met by the Government of Cyprus	34
5. Transport operations						
Purchase of vehicles		28 400		5 500	Reduced freight costs	36
Rental of vehicles		893 300		1 028 200	Unbudgeted increase in vehicle rental contract	37
Workshop equipment		7 400		2 300	Reduced requirements	38
Spare parts, repairs and maintenance		434 000		197 300	Reduced demand for spare parts	38
Petrol, oil and lubricants		379 200		296 600	Restrictions on fuel usage	39
Vehicle insurance		56 400		47 500	Lower than projected costs per vehicle	40
6. Air operations						
(a) Helicopter operations						
Hughes H-500D	2		2			
Hire/charter costs		969 700		969 700	No change	41
Aviation fuel and lubricants		34 700		26 600	Lower than projected fuel costs	42
Liability and war-risk insurance		4 400		4 400	No change	

Description	Apportionment: Number of units	Apportionment: Unit/daily/monthly/annual cost (United States dollars)	Actual: Number of units	Actual: Unit/daily/monthly/annual cost (United States dollars)	Explanation	Supplementary explanation (para. numbers in sect. B)
(b) Fixed-wing aircraft		—		—		
(c) Aircrew subsistence allowance		—		—		
(d) Other air operations costs		—		—		
7. Naval operations		—		—		
8. Communications						
(a) Complementary communications						
Communications equipment		263 600		230 700	Transferred from stock of the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi	51
Spare parts and supplies		109 200		109 200	No change	
Workshop and test equipment		73 600		51 500	Lower than projected costs	53
Commercial communications		382 400		316 100	Stringent controls	54
(b) Main trunking contract		—		—		
9. Other equipment						
Office furniture		16 400		16 400	No change	
Office equipment		43 200		19 900	Transferred from stock of the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi	57
Data-processing equipment		51 000		217 700	Unbudgeted system-wide electronic data-processing upgrades	58
Generators		7 400		2 300	Reduced freight costs	59
Observation equipment		161 900		123 400	Lower unit costs/available from stock	60
Accommodation equipment		81 700		69 800	Lower than projected costs	64
Miscellaneous equipment		187 800		86 500	Reduced requirements/utilization of existing stock	66
Spare parts, repairs and maintenance		86 400		85 800	Lower than projected costs	68
10. Supplies and services						
(a) Miscellaneous services						
Audit services		28 100		28 100	No change	
Contractual services		563 800		634 700	Higher than estimated costs	71
Medical treatment and services		139 700		65 700	Screening of all medical complaints by the Force Medical Officer	74
Claims and adjustments		43 300		157 700	Third-party claims	75
Official hospitality		4 000		4 000	No change	
Miscellaneous other services		71 200		158 600	Higher than projected monthly costs	77

Description	Apportionment: Number of units	Apportionment: Unit/daily/monthly/annual cost (United States dollars)	Actual: Number of units	Actual: Unit/daily/monthly/annual cost (United States dollars)	Explanation	Supplementary explanation (para. numbers in sect. B)
(b) Miscellaneous supplies						
Stationery and office supplies		132 300		96 100	Strict control of inventory	78
Medical supplies		90 700		57 700	Stringent controls	79
Sanitation and cleaning materials		95 200		94 500	Strict control of inventory	80
Subscriptions		19 700		21 700	Increased subscription costs	81
Uniform items, flags and decals		85 700		40 600	Lower than estimated costs	84
Field defence stores		75 300		29 000	Use of supplies from existing stock	85
Quartermaster and general stores		59 500		65 600	Unforeseen requirements	87
11. Election-related supplies and services		—		—		
12. Public information programmes		—		—		
13. Training programmes		—		—		
14. Mine-clearing programmes		—		—		
15. Assistance for disarmament and demobilization		—		—		
16. Air and surface freight						
Transport of contingent-owned equipment		43 900		—	Non-utilization of funds	93
Commercial freight and cartage		17 400		102 300	Increased requirements for freight: transport of stocks of the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi to the mission	95
17. United Nations Logistics Base, Brindisi		—		302 000	No provision made in cost estimates	96
18. Support account for peacekeeping operations		1 065 900		1 065 900	No change	
19. Staff assessment		2 029 900		1 985 400	Average vacancy rate of 6 per cent	98
20. Income from staff assessment		(2 046 900)		(1 985 400)	Derived from item 19 above	99
21. Voluntary contributions in kind		—		—		
Total resources		**43 049 600**		**42 972 300**		

B. Supplementary explanation

	Variances (United States dollars)
1. Military personnel costs	
(a) Military observers	—

1. No provision was made under this heading.

(b) Military contingents	685 600

2. *Standard troop cost reimbursement*. While budgetary provision was based on an average strength of 1,230 troops, the actual average strength was 1,168 troops, resulting in an unutilized balance of $108,000. The planned and actual deployment for civilian and military personnel is shown in annex III.

3. *Welfare*. Owing to the lower than estimated average troop strength, as mentioned in paragraph 2 above, there was an unutilized balance of $3,600, which was offset by additional requirements of $7,200 for the maintenance of sports fields. While provision was made in the amount of $12,000 under the letter of assist arrangement with the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland for this purpose, actual expenditures amounted to $19,200.

4. *Rations*. The unutilized balance of $317,300 was due to the lower than estimated average troop strength, as mentioned in paragraph 2 above, as well as to tighter management control over rations procurement, distribution and consumption in the mission area.

5. *Daily allowance*. The unutilized balance of $29,700 resulted from the lower than estimated average troop strength, as mentioned in paragraph 2 above.

6. *Mission subsistence allowance*. No provision was made under this heading.

7. *Emplacement, rotation and repatriation of troops*. The unutilized balance of $183,200 was due to the lower than estimated cost and number of rotation trips undertaken. Budgetary provision was based on the rotation of 1,110 troops at $900 per trip and 120 specialists at $450 per trip. The actual cost of rotations was lower than anticipated owing to utilization of consolidated charter arrangements.

8. *Clothing and equipment allowance*. The unutilized balance was due to the lower than estimated average strength, as mentioned in paragraph 2 above.

(c) Other costs pertaining to military personnel	—

9. *Contingent-owned equipment*. No change.

10. *Death and disability compensation*. The amount allocated under this heading has been fully obligated to cover potential claims from death, disability or injury of military personnel.

2. Civilian personnel costs	
(a) Civilian police	128 200

11. *Mission subsistence allowance*. Unutilized resources of $4,900 resulted from a lower than estimated number of person/days spent in the mission area by civilian police monitors. Provision under this heading was based on a total of 13,020 person/days, while actual deployment of civilian police totalled 12,693 person/days for the reporting period. The difference was largely due to the reduced overlap requirements during mission handover.

12. *Travel costs*. Unutilized resources of $122,900 were attributable to the lower than estimated cost and number of rotation trips undertaken. The budgetary provision of $148,100 was based on the rotation of 15 civilian police at $2,700 per trip and 20 civilian police at $5,400 per trip. A total of 14 rotation trips were undertaken at an average cost of $1,800.

13. *Clothing and equipment allowance*. Unutilized resources of $400 were due to the lower than estimated average strength, as mentioned in paragraph 11 above.

(b) International and local staff ..... (1 173 100)

14. *International staff salaries*. Apportionment of international staff salaries was based on a total strength of 360 civilian staff (9 Professional, 6 General Service, 27 Field Service and 318 Local staff). As shown in annex IV, the average vacancy rate for civilian staff was approximately 4 per cent of the authorized level for international staff, resulting in unutilized resources of $331,000.

15. *Local staff salaries*. Additional requirements of $905,200 were due to the upward revision of the local salary scale for Cyprus by 3.2 per cent and 12.5 per cent effective 1 January 1996 and 1 January 1997, respectively, which was not foreseen.

16. *Consultants*. An amount of $16,200 was required for the recruitment of a consultant to provide expert advice on legal aspects relating to the situation in Cyprus for which no budgetary provision was made. The consultant was engaged on a when-actually-employed basis not exceeding 30 days within a six-month period.

17. *Overtime*. Unforeseen expenditures of $34,300 relate to night differential payments made to local staff in UNFICYP. The requirement for payment of night differential was not known at the time of the preparation of the estimates for UNFICYP for the period 1 July 1996 to 30 June 1997, as local staff salaries had been funded under contractual services up to 30 June 1996. Consequently, no provision was made for this purpose.

18. *General temporary assistance*. No provision was made under this heading.

19. *Common staff costs*. Under the local salary scale for Cyprus, dependency and language allowances increased by 13.8 per cent and 17.9 per cent, respectively, effective 1 January 1997, resulting in additional requirements of $524,000.

20. *Mission subsistence allowance*. No provision was made under this heading.

21. *Other travel costs*. Additional requirements of $24,300 were required owing to unforeseen travel to Headquarters of a former UNFICYP staff member and contingent officer in connection with an investigation of the Office of Internal Oversight Services ($12,900). Other travel for which no provision was made in the cost estimates included travel to London, to deliver exhibits relating to the events of August 1996 for forensic analysis ($600), travel of the UNFICYP Spokesman to Headquarters to attend a seminar on information components of the United Nations peacekeeping missions ($4,200) and the additional trip to Headquarters made by the Chief of Mission in connection with the extensive rounds of political consultations on Cyprus that took place in early 1997 ($6,600).

(c) International contractual personnel ..... —

22. No provision was made under this heading.

(d) United Nations Volunteers ..... —

23. No provision was made under this heading.

(e) Government-provided personnel . . . . . —

24. No provision was made under this heading.

(f) Civilian electoral observers . . . . . —

25. No provision was made under this heading.

3. Premises/accommodation 258 900

26. *Rental of premises*. Article 19 of the status of forces agreement requires the Government of Cyprus to provide UNFICYP with certain types of premises, as well as to provide for their maintenance. The agreement excludes alterations and renovations for the enhancement of premises, which are paid for by UNFICYP.

27. Provision of $1,800 made in the cost estimates for the rental of a shooting range was not utilized during the period under review.

28. *Alteration and renovation of premises*. Unutilized resources of $33,600 resulted from the fact that the work accomplished by local contractors was undertaken at costs lower than budgeted. During the reporting period, a number of construction projects were completed, including improvements to living quarters and administrative buildings, maintenance of landfill sites and other grounds as well as unforeseen repairs to British retained sites at the sewage farm and other facilities within the UNFICYP headquarters area.

29. *Maintenance supplies*. No provision was made under this heading.

30. *Maintenance services*. Unutilized resources of $20,400 resulted from lower than budgeted monthly costs for contractual maintenance. While provision was made for general maintenance, cleaning and upkeep at all mission locations, including garbage and sewage removal, at an estimated monthly cost of $21,200, actual expenditures averaged $19,500 during the period.

31. *Utilities*. Unutilized resources of $203,100 resulted from the introduction of strict economy measures to reduce the consumption of water and electricity in the mission area (metering devices). Lower than estimated unit costs for electricity, diesel oil and gas (for heating) during the reporting period also contributed to the savings under this heading.

32. *Construction/prefabricated buildings*. No provision was made under this heading.

4. Infrastructure repairs 201 400

33. *Upgrading of airstrips*. No provision was made under this heading.

34. *Upgrading of roads*. A provision of $598,600 was made to complete the first part of the patrol track maintenance project. While it was initially foreseen that UNFICYP would provide for the full cost of the project, following negotiations with the Government of Cyprus, agreement was reached that part of the costs ($201,400) would be met by the Government of Cyprus, resulting in unutilized resources under this heading.

35. *Repair of bridges*. No provision was made under this heading.

5. Transport operations 221 300

36. *Purchase of vehicles*. The acquisition of two additional vehicles (one backhoe loader and one fuel truck) from the United Nations Logistics Base at lower than estimated freight costs resulted in unutilized resources of $22,900.

37. *Rental of vehicles*. Additional resources of $134,900 were required for the rental of 157 vehicles, the cost of which proved to be higher than projected. The cost estimate for the period under review provided for

commercial rental of 145 vehicles per month at an estimated average daily rate of $13.74 per vehicle per month, or $417.93 per vehicle per month. These rates were based on the actual rental costs in accordance with the terms of a rental contract with a local supplier at the time of the budget preparation. Effective 1 July 1996, after competitive bidding, a new three-year contract was signed with two local companies for the provision of hired vehicles to UNFICYP. In accordance with the new contract, the actual average daily rate was $17.25 per vehicle, or $524.69 per vehicle per month, resulting in an additional requirement of $201,200 for the period. These additional costs were partially offset by an amount of $64,100 relating to non-utilization of funds provided for installation of air conditioning in cars and minibuses.

38. *Workshop equipment, spare parts, repairs and maintenance.* Unutilized resources of $5,100 under workshop equipment and $236,700 under spare parts, repairs and maintenance were due to the lower demand for spare parts and reduced prices secured by UNFICYP through open-ended contracts with local companies for repair and maintenance of United Nations-owned and contingent-owned vehicles.

39. *Petrol, oil and lubricants.* The unutilized balance of $82,600 was due to strict economy and control measures introduced in UNFICYP for vehicle fuel consumption. The fuel consumption economy measures included charging of contingent personnel for liberty mileage and monthly reporting by all UNFICYP sectors and units on planning and actual consumption of fuel.

40. *Vehicle insurance.* Provision was made in the amount of $56,400 for local third-party and worldwide coverage for 36 United Nations-owned and 116 contingent-owned vehicles. Actual costs for vehicle insurance for 152 vehicles amounted to $47,500, resulting in savings of $8,900 under this heading.

6. Air operations

(a) Helicopter operations 8 100

41. *Hire/charter costs and liability and war-risk insurance.* Annex V shows the planned and actual hours flown by the two helicopters used in the mission. The apportionment of $969,700 for the hire/charter costs of two helicopters and $4,400 for liability and war-risk insurance were fully utilized. The Force required an unforeseen increase in the level of flights in July 1996 during demonstrations in the buffer zone, as UNFICYP was highly dependent on air support in crowd control operations in Dherinya and other potentially volatile areas.

42. *Aviation fuel and lubricants.* Unutilized resources of $8,100 resulted from lower than projected aviation fuel costs.

43. *Positioning/depositioning costs.* No provision was made under this heading.

44. *Resupply flights.* No provision was made under this heading.

45. *Painting/preparation.* No provision was made under this heading.

(b) Fixed-wing aircraft . . . . . —

46. No provision was made under this heading.

(c) Air crew subsistence allowance . . . . . —

47. No provision was made under this heading.

(d) Other air operation costs . . . . . —

48. No provision was made under this heading.

7. Naval operations . . . . . —

49. No provision was made under this heading.

8. Communications

(a) Complementary communications 121 300

50. The UNFICYP communications network consists of: (a) an earth satellite station which provides the mission with access to the United Nations global network; (b) high frequency communications providing a back-up link to Geneva; (c) a UHF mobile communications network providing an island-wide force command net using a repeater system stretching across the island with fixed-base stations; and (d) vehicular and hand-held sets. The mission also has microwave and rural telephone links between Force headquarters and sector/company headquarters, as well as microwave links, as part of the Middle East inter-mission communications network. Commercial telephones, telefax and pagers are also used whenever needed.

51. *Communications equipment*. In addition to the transfer of various UHF equipment totalling $41,000 from the United Nations Logistics Base to UNFICYP, the following communications equipment was also acquired from the Logistics Base: one Motorola UHF repeater, three LR 2000 Cabletron repeaters and PABX telephone and switchboard equipment, resulting in unutilized resources of $32,900.

52. *Spare parts and supplies*. No change.

53. *Workshop and test equipment*. Unutilized resources of $22,100 were due to the purchase of a spectrum analyser and digital transmission tester at lower than budgeted costs.

54. *Commercial communications*. Unutilized resources of $66,300 under commercial communications resulted from the continuation of strict control procedures over telephone usage, which were implemented by the introduction of a telephone log as well as a reduction in the number of telephone lines available to the mission.

(b) Main trunking contract . . . . . —

55. No provision was made under this heading.

9. Other equipment 14 000

56. *Office furniture*. No change.

57. *Office equipment*. Unutilized resources of $23,300 were due to lower purchase costs of 11 medium volume copiers and other office equipment acquired by UNFICYP. Additional equipment (5 fax machines, 12 central processing units with monitors and keyboards, 2 scanners and 1 identification computer with identification card printer, camera and sign pad) were provided from surplus mission stock, contributing to the savings under this line item.

58. *Data-processing equipment*. Additional requirements of $166,700 were due to the upgrading of the mission computer infrastructure with software and hardware applications to meet New York Headquarters requirements.

59. *Generators*. Unutilized resources of $5,100 were due to lower than estimated freight costs on the transfer of seven generators from the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi to UNFICYP.

60. *Observation equipment*. The unutilized amount of $38,500 was due to the following: (a) the purchase of 28 night observation devices and 10 pairs of observation post binoculars at lower than budgeted unit costs; and (b) the transfer of 5 night observation devices from United Nations Peace Forces headquarters surplus stock to UNFICYP.

61. *Petrol tank plus metering equipment*. No provision was made under this heading.

62. *Water and septic tanks*. No provision was made under this heading.

63. *Medical and dental equipment*. No provision was made under this heading.

64. *Accommodation equipment*. Unutilized resources of $11,900 were due to the acquisition of bedding for the Force at lower than estimated costs.

65. *Refrigeration equipment*. No provision was made under this heading.

66. *Miscellaneous equipment*. Unutilized resources of $101,300 were due to the transfer of 50 air conditioning units from the United Nations Logistics Base to UNFICYP. The prioritization of procurement activity limiting purchases to immediate operational requirements also resulted in additional unutilized resources.

67. *Field defence equipment*. No provision was made under this heading.

68. *Spare parts, repairs and maintenance*. The unutilized balance of $600 was due to lower actual costs of equipment, spare parts and maintenance.

69. *Water-purification equipment*. No provision was made under this heading.

10. Supplies and services

(a) Miscellaneous services ..... (1 058 400)

70. *Audit services*. No change.

71. *Contractual services*. Additional requirements of $795,600 include an amount of $724,700 for payment of an outstanding claim from the Government of the United Kingdom for logistic support provided to UNFICYP during the period from 1 January to 31 December 1995. The balance of $70,900 was due to higher than estimated average monthly costs of cleaning of catering areas, tailoring, laundry, dry cleaning and hair cutting for military personnel. Much of the difference between actual and budgeted monthly costs of contractual services was due to higher costs for laundry and dry cleaning services, especially in the area south of the buffer zone. The estimate for laundry and dry cleaning services for military personnel was based on the existing contract with local companies, which provided for 3.2 kilos of uniforms per person per week, whereas the actual needs for dry cleaning services proved to be 5.0 kilos per person per week.

72. *Data-processing services*. No provision was made under this heading.

73. *Security services*. No provision was made under this heading.

74. *Medical treatment and services*. As the result of initial screening of medical complaints by the Force Medical Officer, unnecessary medical charges were eliminated, resulting in an unutilized balance of $74,000.

75. *Claims and adjustments*. Additional requirements of $114,400 under claims and adjustments relate to claims in respect of damages incurred as a result of traffic accidents not covered by local insurance. No provision was made for this purpose in the cost estimates.

76. *Official hospitality*. No change.

77. *Miscellaneous other services*. Additional requirements of $87,400 under miscellaneous other services were due to higher than estimated actual monthly costs, including unforeseen expenditures in the amount of $12,300 incurred for security and forensic requirements in connection with the events in Dheriya from 12 to 14 August 1996.

(b) Miscellaneous supplies 153 200

78. *Stationery and office supplies*. The estimate was based on a monthly cost of $11,050. The unutilized amount of $36,200 resulted from the continued implementation of economy and efficiency measures, including strict control of inventory, which was introduced in UNFICYP in July 1996.

79. *Medical supplies*. The apportionment of resources was based on a monthly cost of $7,560. Unutilized resources in the amount of $33,000 resulted for reasons cited in paragraph 78 above.

80. *Sanitation and cleaning materials*. The apportionment of resources was based on a monthly cost of $7,930. The unutilized balance of $700 resulted for the reasons cited in paragraph 78 above.

81. *Subscriptions*. Additional requirements of $2,000 were due to higher than estimated costs of Cypriot Greek and Turkish newspapers and periodicals.

82. *Electrical supplies*. No provision was made under this heading.

83. *Ballistic-protective blankets for vehicles*. No provision was made under this heading.

84. *Uniform items, flags and decals*. Unutilized resources of $45,100 were due to the acquisition of items in fewer quantities and at lower than estimated costs.

85. *Field defence stores*. The estimate was based on a monthly cost of $6,300. The unutilized amount of $46,300 resulted from reasons cited in paragraph 78 above.

86. *Operational maps*. No provision was made under this heading.

87. *Quartermaster and general stores*. Additional requirements of $6,100 resulted owing to the acquisition of additional crowd control equipment, such as barbed wire and barriers, in connection with demonstrations in the buffer zone in August 1996.

11. Election-related supplies and services . . . . . —

88. No provision was made under this heading.

12. Public information programmes . . . . . —

89. No provision was made under this heading.

13. Training programmes . . . . . —

90. No provision was made under this heading.

14. Mine-clearing programmes . . . . . —

91. No provision was made under this heading.

15. Assistance for disarmament and demobilization . . . . . —

92. No provision was made under this heading.

16. Air and surface freight . . . . . (41 000)

93. *Transport of contingent-owned equipment*. Resources provided in the amount of $43,900 were not utilized, as no such equipment was emplaced during the period under review.

94. *Military airlifts*. No provision was made under this heading.

95. *Commercial freight and cartage*. Utilization of surplus mission and United Nations Logistics Base stocks considerably reduced purchase costs of imported equipment. However, additional requirements in the amount of $84,900 were needed to cover associated freight charges.

17. United Nations Logistics Base, Brindisi . . . . . (302 000)

96. The expenditure of $302,000 represents the prorated share of UNFICYP in the cost of maintaining the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi for the period from 1 July 1996 to 30 June 1997, based on operative paragraph 3 of General Assembly resolution 52/1 of 15 October 1997.

18. Support account for peacekeeping operations . . . . . —

97. No change.

19. Staff assessment 44 500

98. The average vacancy rate for civilian staff was 6 per cent, resulting in savings under this heading.

20. Income from staff assessment . . . . . (44 500)

99. This amount is derived from item 19 above.

21. Voluntary contributions in kind (budgeted) . . . . . —

100. No change.

22. Voluntary contributions in kind (non-budgeted) . . . . . —

101. No change.

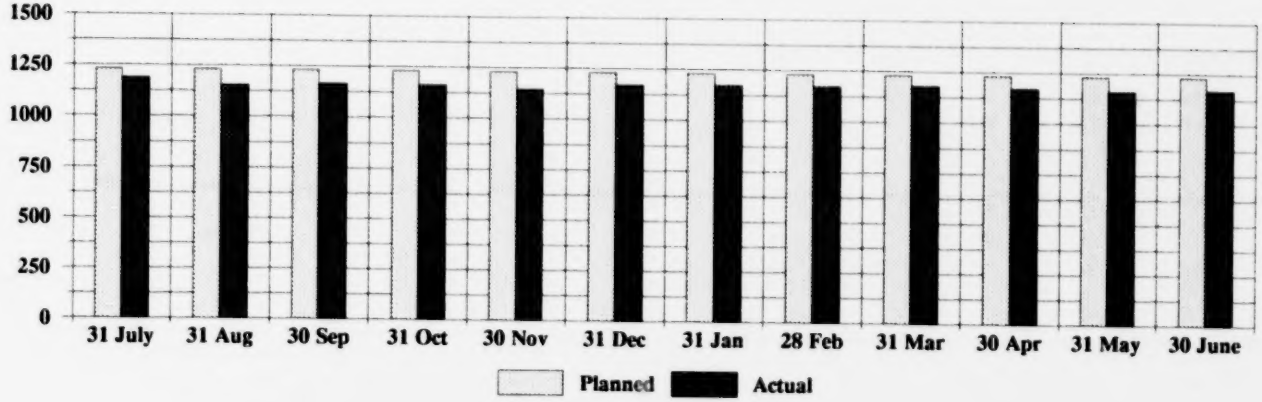
Annex III

A. Planned and actual deployment of civilian and military personnel for the period from 1 July 1996 to 30 June 1997

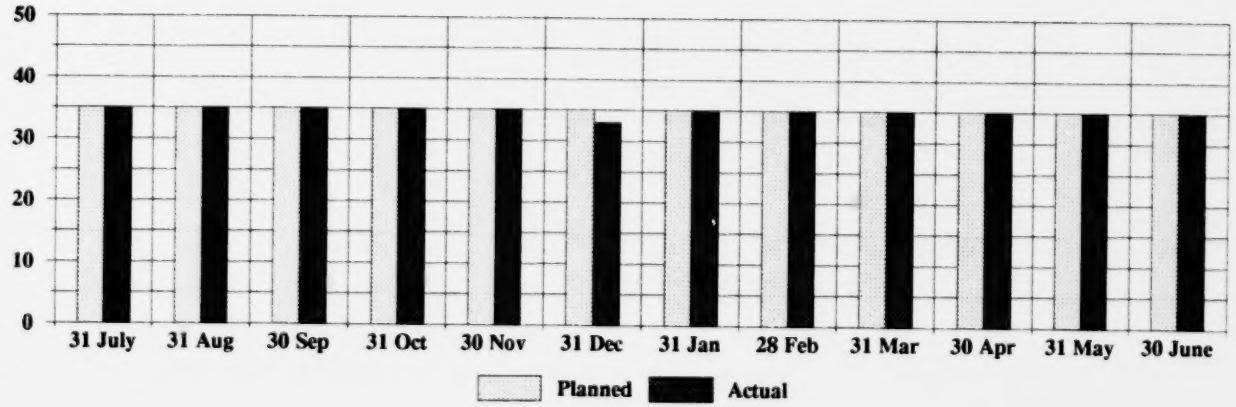
	Deployment as at											
	31 July	*31 Aug*	*30 Sep*	*31 Oct*	*30 Nov*	*31 Dec*	*31 Jan*	*28 Feb*	*31 Mar*	*30 Apr*	*31 May*	*30 June*
Military observers												
Planned	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Actual	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Difference	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Military contingents												
Planned	1 230	1 230	1 230	1 230	1 230	1 230	1 230	1 230	1 230	1 230	1 230	1 230
Actual	1 189	1 153	1 165	1 162	1 145	1 171	1 174	1 174	1 180	1 171	1 159	1 168
Difference	41	77	65	68	85	59	56	56	50	59	71	62
Civilian police												
Planned	35	35	35	35	35	35	35	35	35	35	35	35
Actual	35	35	35	35	35	33	35	35	35	35	35	35
Difference	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
International staff												
Planned	42	42	42	42	42	42	42	42	42	42	42	42
Actual	40	40	42	40	42	39	40	41	40	40	41	41
Difference	2	2	-	2	-	3	2	1	2	2	1	1
Local staff												
Planned	318	318	318	318	318	318	318	318	318	318	318	318
Actual	299	298	298	299	300	299	298	296	295	292	295	295
Difference	19	20	20	19	18	19	20	22	23	26	23	23
United Nations Volunteers												
Planned	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Actual	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Difference	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

B. Graphs of planned and actual deployment of civilian and military personnel for the period from 1 July 1996 to 30 June 1997

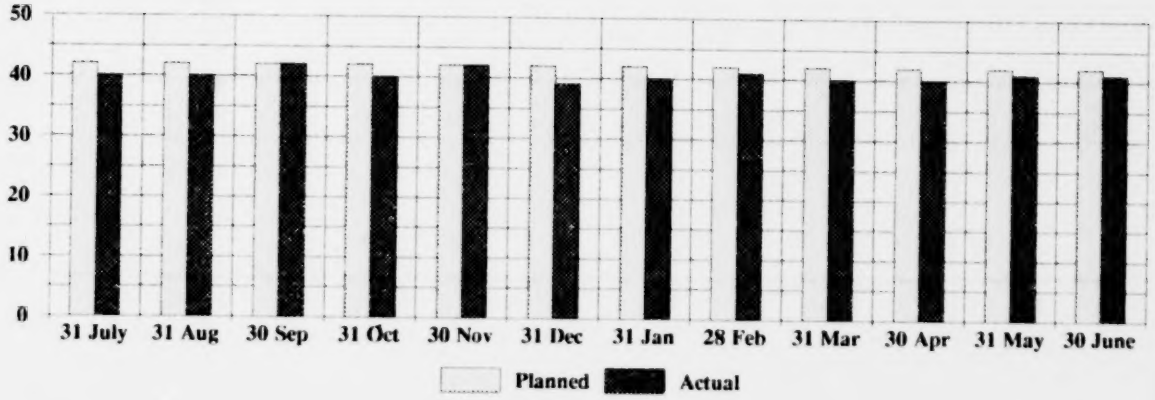
1. Military contingents



2. Civilian police



3. International staff



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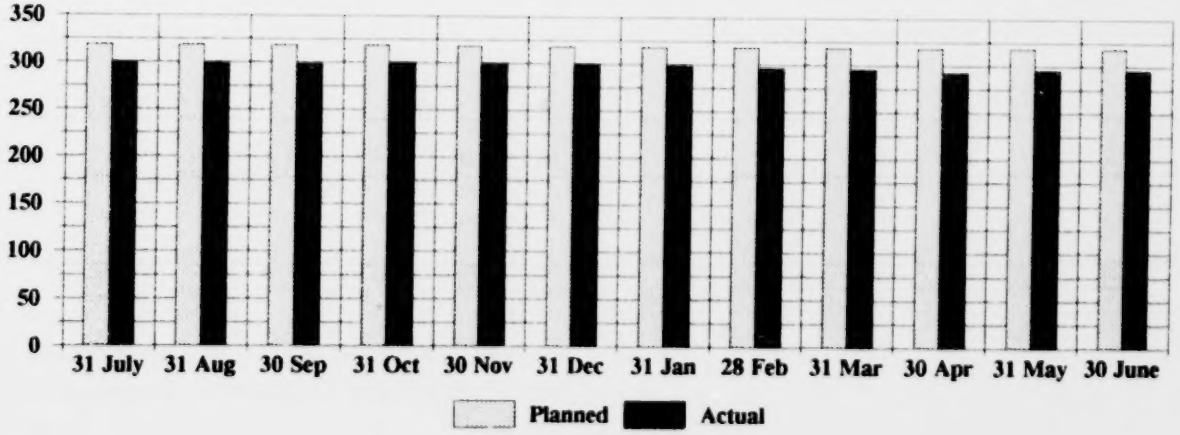

Annex IV
Authorized staffing, incumbency and vacancy rate for the period from 1 July 1996 to 30 June 1997

Personnel category	*Authorized staffing*	*Actual staff on board*												
		31 July	*31 Aug*	*30 Sep*	*31 Oct*	*30 Nov*	*31 Dec*	*31 Jan*	*28 Feb*	*31 Mar*	*30 Apr*	*31 May*	*30 June*	*Average*
Military personnel														
Military contingents	1 230	1 189	1 153	1 165	1 162	1 145	1 171	1 174	1 174	1 180	1 171	1 159	1 168	1 168
Vacancy rate (percentage)		3	6	5	6	7	5	5	5	4	5	6	5	5
Total, military personnel	**1 230**	**1 189**	**1 153**	**1 165**	**1 162**	**1 145**	**1 171**	**1 174**	**1 174**	**1 180**	**1 171**	**1 159**	**1 168**	**1 168**
Vacancy rate (percentage)		**3**	**6**	**5**	**6**	**7**	**5**	**5**	**5**	**4**	**5**	**6**	**5**	**5**
Civilian personnel														
Civilian police	35	35	35	35	35	35	33	35	35	35	35	35	35	35
Vacancy rate (percentage)		-	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.5
International staff														
Under-Secretary-General	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Assistant Secretary-General	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
D-2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1
D-1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
P-5	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
P-4	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
P-3	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
P-2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Subtotal	9	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	9	8	8	8	8	8
Vacancy rate (percentage)		11	11	11	11	11	11	11	-	11	11	11	11	10
Field Service	27	25	25	27	26	27	27	27	27	27	26	27	27	27
General Service (Principal level)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
General Service (Other level)	6	7	7	7	6	7	4	5	5	5	6	6	6	6
Security Service	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Subtotal	33	32	32	34	32	34	31	32	32	32	32	33	33	32
Vacancy rate (percentage)		3	3	(3)	3	(3)	6	3	3	3	3	-	-	2
Total, international staff	**42**	**40**	**40**	**42**	**40**	**42**	**39**	**40**	**41**	**40**	**40**	**41**	**41**	**41**
Vacancy rate (percentage)		**5**	**5**	-	**5**	-	**7**	**5**	**2**	**5**	**5**	**2**	**2**	**4**
Local staff	318	299	298	298	299	300	299	298	296	295	292	295	295	297
Vacancy rate (percentage)		6	6	6	6	6	6	6	7	7	8	7	7	7
Total, civilian personnel	**395**	**374**	**373**	**375**	**374**	**377**	**371**	**373**	**372**	**370**	**367**	**371**	**371**	**372**
Vacancy rate (percentage)		**5**	**6**	**5**	**5**	**5**	**6**	**6**	**6**	**6**	**7**	**6**	**6**	**6**

Annex V

Planned and actual utilization of helicopter and fixed-wing aircraft for the period from 1 July 1996 to 30 June 1997

	Number of aircraft	*July*	*Aug*	*Sep*	*Oct*	*Nov*	*Dec*	*Jan*	*Feb*	*Mar*	*Apr*	*May*	*June*	*Total*
Helicopters														
Hughes H-500D	2													
Planned														
hours/month		90	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	1 080
Actual														
hours/month		127	83	89	79	81	94	96	87	93	85	91	90	1 094
Difference		(37)	7	1	11	9	(4)	(6)	3	(3)	5	(1)	-	(14)

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Agenda items 114 and 143

Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations

Report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Office of Internal Oversight Services

Note by the Secretary-General

1. Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 48/218 B of 29 July 1994, the Secretary-General has the honour to transmit, for the attention of the General Assembly, the attached report, conveyed to him by the Under-Secretary-General for Internal Oversight Services, on the audits of the regional commissions.

2. The Secretary-General takes note of the findings contained in the report and concurs with its recommendations.

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Annex

Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the audits of the regional commissions

Summary

During the period from September 1996 to April 1997, the Office of Internal Oversight Services conducted audits of the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), and the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA).

A. Economic Commission for Africa

Major improvements were needed to strengthen internal controls and to monitor compliance with financial regulations and rules. The accounting system was outdated and did not meet the needs of the Commission. Bank reconciliations were not done on a timely basis and they contained a number of reconciling items that had not been properly investigated. Collection action for all classes of accounts receivable has been weak.

The costs of running the newly completed United Nations Conference Centre are not segregated from the operating costs of other ECA facilities. Separate account codes should be established and common costs prorated to reflect the actual costs of operating and maintaining the Centre.

ECA management generally agreed with the recommendations of the Office and has already addressed many of the problems reported. It has established an action plan for strengthening financial and administrative management and a time schedule for implementation.

B. Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean

The audits of ECLAC and its subregional office in Mexico disclosed generally satisfactory management of programmes. However, the monitoring of extrabudgetary projects was inadequate and the quality of programme outputs was not being properly assessed. ECLAC Mexico, while using substantial regular budget resources to produce outputs that were not covered by the approved programme of work, was nevertheless able to achieve a subprogramme implementation rate of 90 per cent. Thus, there was an indication of overbudgeting.

There was no formal agreement between ECLAC and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) defining the terms and conditions of administrative support provided to UNEP by ECLAC Mexico. The costs incurred by ECLAC in providing this support should be fully reimbursed by UNEP.

ECLAC management generally concurred with the recommendations of the Office and has initiated implementation action.

C. Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

Changes in the ESCAP secretariat that are necessary to support the thematically oriented programme of work of the Commission were not effected. There was also little congruence between the programmatic and organizational structures, and no correlation between the programme budget and the financial statements.

An audit of ESCAP technology management disclosed that security, disaster planning and disaster recovery needed to be strengthened.

ESCAP management agreed to implement many of the recommendations of the Office. However, management's response to some recommendations was still pending as of the date of the present report.

D. Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia

At ESCWA, the internal controls in place were generally adequate, but procedures needed strengthening, in particular in the areas of procurement and financial management.

At the time of the audit, milestones needed to be established for the planned move of the Commission to the new permanent headquarters in Beirut, and funding requirements and sources for the move needed to be reassessed and regularly updated. ESCWA management subsequently revised the budget and established a detailed plan for the move. As of the date of the present report, most staff and assets had been transferred from Amman to Beirut in accordance with the plan.

An audit of the Commission's technology management revealed that disaster planning and prevention needed improvement.

ESCWA management agreed with the recommendations of the Office and has already commenced implementation action.

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I. Introduction

1. The regional commissions have been reviewing their operations and programmes in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/41 of 26 July 1996, which addressed the implementation of General Assembly resolution 50/227 of 24 May 1996. Two common issues have emerged from the commissions' deliberations. The first is the need for a strategic reorganization, from a predominantly sectoral programme structure to a broad, thematically oriented structure reflecting the economic and social priorities of the regions. The second issue is the imperative of programme cooperation with other institutions to avoid overlapping programmes and inconsistent approaches to programme delivery. As a consequence, mechanisms to ensure successful management of extrabudgetary programmes have assumed particular significance in enhancing the effectiveness of the commissions.

2. During the period from September 1996 to April 1997, the Office of Internal Oversight Services conducted audits of four of the five regional commissions, namely, the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), and the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA). The Economic Commission for Europe was not covered since it was scheduled for a different audit cycle. The audits evaluated the effectiveness and efficiency of programme and administrative management and reviewed the progress of the commissions' organizational realignment efforts. As a special exercise, the Office also reviewed information technology management at ESCAP and ESCWA.

3. In accordance with the policy of the Office, management was requested to comment on the audit findings and recommendations contained in the initial audit reports, and was again requested to comment on a draft of the report. Management's comments and actions taken in response to the recommendations of the Office have been reflected throughout this report and are highlighted in italics.

II. Organization and programme alignment

A. Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean

1. Presentation of the subregional programme of work

4. In the programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995,[a] subregional activities in Mexico and Central America undertaken by ECLAC Mexico were included under a separate subprogramme (12), whereas they actually related to activities (agriculture, economic development, industry, international trade, energy and social development) covered by other ECLAC subprogrammes (1, 2, 4, 5, 6 and 9). Yet, all the programme outputs of ECLAC Mexico were reflected under the heading "Subregional activities in Mexico and Central America", and the entire regular budget expenditures on the programme of work were reflected under "Development issues and policies". Consequently, the programme performance report and the financial statements did not reflect completely the common areas of the Commission's programme of work.

5. The Office recommended that ECLAC, in consultation with the Office of Programme Planning, Budget and Accounts, examine the appropriateness of the presentation of the programme of work, budget and financial accounts for ECLAC Mexico with a view to ensuring that they accurately reflect the work undertaken.

6. *ECLAC management advised that this recommendation would be presented to the Programme Planning and Budget Division of the Office of Programme Planning, Budget and Accounts for possible implementation.*

B. Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

1. Reorganization along thematic lines

7. ESCAP has recognized that the complexity of the development problems facing the developing countries increasingly demands that they be tackled in a comprehensive manner through interdisciplinary and intersectoral action. In order to achieve a "progressive reorganization of the work of the Commission on a thematic basis", ESCAP, by its resolution 48/2 of 23 April 1993, revised its subsidiary intergovernmental structure and established three thematic committees, on regional economic

cooperation, environment and sustainable development and poverty alleviation through economic growth and social development, in addition to two other committees and two special bodies. The Commission also invited the Executive Secretary to reorganize the secretariat so as to enhance service to the thematic intergovernmental structure.

8. To reflect the thematic approach, programme 31 of the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997[b] was revised to provide for six multisectoral subprogrammes corresponding to the revised subsidiary intergovernmental structure of the Commission. In section 16 of the proposed programme budgets for the bienniums 1994-1995 and 1996-1997,[c] the Commission's programme of work was accordingly divided into six multisectoral subprogrammes. However, the account codes were not changed accordingly, and thus continued to be issued under the old sectoral subprogrammes. As a result, schedule 4.1 of the United Nations financial statements for the biennium 1994-1995 reflected the appropriations and expenditures for ESCAP under the old sectoral subprogrammes.

9. The limited congruence between the programmatic and organizational structures and the lack of correlation between budgets and financial statements presented problems in assessing the performance and financial results of each subprogramme. In the opinion of the Office, the goal of a more efficient ESCAP secretariat could be achieved through a reorganization, with fewer substantive divisions corresponding to the reduced number of subprogrammes.

10. According to the Executive Secretary, there were practical difficulties in operationalizing the thematic approach, and the matter was likely to be reconsidered. In this connection, the Office noted from the Commission's resolution 52/1, dated 24 April 1996, that steps had been taken to facilitate a comprehensive review of the Commission's conference structure, including the thematic approach. It was understood that the results of the review would be available to the Commission in April 1997 for determining further changes in the conference and programme structure. Meanwhile, the programme relating to the ESCAP medium-term plan for the period 1998-2001 had been prepared on the basis of the existing organizational structure of the Commission's secretariat (A/51/6 (programme 15) of 24 May 1996). Thus, rather than reorganizing the secretariat to conform to the intersectoral and multidisciplinary approach commended by the Commission, the programme has been provisionally recast to accord with the existing secretariat structure.

11. The Office recommended that ESCAP take steps to ensure congruence between the programmatic and the organizational structures and correlation between the Commission's budget and financial statements, and to restructure the substantive ESCAP divisions to correspond to the reduced number of multisectoral subprogrammes. The Office noted that ESCAP, at its fifty-third session, approved a draft resolution providing for a slightly modified thematic conference structure, and requested the Executive Secretary to reorganize the secretariat to enhance its ability to service the subsidiary structure of the Commission and to implement its programme of work for the biennium 1998-1999.

12. *ESCAP management stated that the Executive Secretary had initiated corrective action and was to report to the Commission's Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives and other Representatives Designated by Members of the Commission on the revision of the intergovernmental structure by October 1997.*

III. Programme management

A. Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean

1. Departure from approved programme of work

13. Outputs outside the work programme of ECLAC Mexico represented 73 per cent of all outputs during the biennium 1996-1997, and approximately 30 per cent of ECLAC Mexico's resources were used to produce outputs not included in the proposed programme budget. In this connection, ECLAC Mexico stated that the process of formulating the work programme started three years before its actual implementation. During that period new problems might arise in the subregion and new priorities might be set by the member States, and ECLAC must react to those changes, even if those requests had not previously been included in the work programme.

14. Although those additional activities were included by ECLAC Mexico in its semi-annual reports to ECLAC headquarters, there was no feedback regarding the latter's assessment of their relevance or justification in terms of accommodating them within the regular budget allotments. There was also no indication that the availability of extrabudgetary resources for such activities had been explored.

15. *ECLAC management stated that every effort was being made to anticipate the future needs of the countries served, however, the unusual circumstances affecting the economies in the subregion in recent years had necessitated a degree*

of reorientation of programme activities at the request of the member States. According to management, the objective of a more decentralized and flexible operation within the ECLAC system is expected to be achieved during the next biennium.

2. Monitoring of projects

16. The audit found that ECLAC had not established a formalized system and procedures for project monitoring, review and follow-up. The Programme Management Unit had been using, in the main, the project management plan for monitoring projects. However, the plan was not updated promptly and the results of the monitoring, in terms of analytical information on the extrabudgetary activities as a whole, were not documented for appropriate follow-up.

17. *In response to the Office's recommendation that suitable guidelines and procedures be instituted for the monitoring and review of extrabudgetary projects, ECLAC planned to test, in 1997, its draft extrabudgetary project manual as it related to project monitoring, reporting and evaluation.*

3. Assessment of the quality of programme outputs and evaluation of extrabudgetary projects

18. The audit disclosed that there was no internal system to evaluate the quality of ECLAC outputs. The auditors were told that the high volume of ECLAC publications made it impossible for a director to review and evaluate the quality of all the publications produced in a division. For instance, ECLAC issued approximately 165 non-recurrent publications for 1994-1995, projected 187 for 1996-1997 and proposed 192 for 1998-1999. A study to establish a methodology for evaluating quality of outputs had been initiated in December 1995, but was far from completion at the time of the audit.

19. Without a system of quality evaluation, the quality of the outputs cannot be assured and there is no feedback to the planning process for attaining progressive improvement in quality. The Office therefore recommended that ECLAC establish a methodology for assessing the quality of programme outputs and develop an evaluation manual for extrabudgetary projects so that the quality of outputs can be assessed and projects evaluated systematically.

20. *ECLAC management indicated that in an effort to improve project monitoring, a project evaluation manual and a computerized planning matrix had been developed for the monitoring and evaluation of projects.*

B. Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

1. Subprogramme 6. Least developed, landlocked and island developing countries

21. The Office of Internal Oversight Services reviewed the performance during the biennium 1994-1995 of subprogramme 6, Least developed, landlocked and island developing countries, as reported by the ESCAP secretariat on 28 February 1996. The review showed significant discrepancies in the work months planned and those utilized. In the absence of any reliable basis for estimating the workload and monitoring the time spent in producing each of the outputs, there was ad hoc allocation of available work months among the various activities for purposes of the programme and performance report. The review also disclosed deficiencies in planning, production and reporting of programme outputs.

22. *ESCAP management advised that in response to the recommendations of the Office, it had strengthened its monitoring of programme performance through (a) regular discussions on programme performance at senior staff meetings; (b) monthly review and follow-up on the implementation of both regular budget and extrabudgetary activities by the Programme Management Division; and (c) reformatting the system for reporting on the implementation of the work programme. Management also requested the Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives to strengthen its oversight of the implementation of the work programme.*

2. Evaluation of the quality and relevance of publications

23. According to the ESCAP Organizational Manual (ST/SGB of 19 October 1995), the Programme Management Division is responsible for preparing the schedule for ESCAP publications and organizing appropriate training seminars and workshops to improve the quality of those publications and their dissemination. However, no training seminar or workshop had been organized. The Director advised that the substantive Divisions would be more qualified to carry out that evaluation in particular with regard to publications of a technical nature and/or where specialized knowledge was required.

24. The audit noted that a Working Group on Publications was established at ESCAP in January 1993 to review the publications programme and to recommend policy guidelines for planning, producing and evaluating the publications in respect of their relevance and quality. However, no such

policy guidelines had been recommended and the Working Group did not meet after August 1994.

25. The Office recommended that, in the context of the progressive reorganization of the Commission's work on a thematic basis, ESCAP ensure the quality and relevance of publications on a continuous basis. The response of ESCAP management was pending as of the date of the present report.

3. Self-evaluation of projects

26. The audit found that programme/project managers had not been conducting self-evaluations in accordance with paragraph 8.6 of the Extrabudgetary Project Manual. The Programme Management Division agreed that, in view of their importance for on-course corrections and learning lessons for the future, such evaluations should be selectively applied to high-value projects and those which are significantly delayed. The Office recommended that ESCAP strengthen project monitoring and that selective self-evaluations of both ongoing and completed projects be undertaken by the substantive divisions on a systematic basis.

27. *ESCAP management concurred with the recommendations of the Office and stated that, as a first step, it was agreed to revise the computer system to allow for on-line retrieval of data on project delivery by the implementing divisions.*

IV. Financial and administrative management

A. Economic Commission for Africa

1. Accounting system

28. The Commission's accounting system was outdated and not fully automated. It did not provide the flexibility to produce the required reports or to analyse accounting data and thus did not meet the needs of the Commission.

29. As an interim solution to its accounting and data problems until the Integrated Management Information System (IMIS) is fully implemented in July 1999, ECA initially planned to replace its existing accounting system with the one used by ECLAC. The new system should have been ready by 31 March 1997. However, this goal was not achieved. The audit found no detailed plans, time lines for implementation or progress reports. ECA subsequently decided that the SUN accounting system currently used by the Department of Peacekeeping Operations was better suited as a bridge between the current system and IMIS. As of the date of the present report, the revised target date for implementation of the SUN system was 1 January 1998. In the opinion of the Office, there should have been a more systematic approach in planning and implementing the new accounting system.

2. Bank reconciliations

30. Bank reconciliations were not up to date and there were numerous reconciling items that had been outstanding for an excessive period of time. The review of one bank account revealed, for example, that deposits amounting to $172,500 were recorded by ECA but not yet recorded by the bank, with one deposit dating back to December 1994. Charges and debits recorded by the bank but not recorded in ECA's books amounted to $304,700, most of this amount going back to 1994 and 1995. In the view of the Office of Internal Oversight Services, this matter represented a serious internal control weakness. Segregation of duties in performing bank reconciliations was also an area that needed to be strengthened.

31. *ECA management agreed with the recommendations of the Office and reported that bank reconciliations have been completed for the period from May 1996 to September 1997 and that the improper bank reconciliations for the three years prior to May 1996 were being investigated. Management also advised that it had restructured the Budget and Finance Section, taking into account the need for separation of duties.*

32. In the course of reviewing the bank reconciliations, ECA discovered a case of presumptive fraud by a former ECA staff member involving fraudulently endorsed cheques totalling approximately $30,000. This case, which is currently under investigation, highlights the importance of timely reconciliations and adequate internal controls.

3. Accounts receivable

33. A review of accounts receivable indicated significant shortcomings in internal controls. Specifically, accounts receivable balances were not aged, there was a lack of review and follow-up of long outstanding receivables, uncollectible accounts were not regularly written-off and collection action was inadequate.

34. Accounts receivable from vendors amounted to more than $500,000, going back in part to the 1980s. No aged listing of accounts was available. Under accounts receivable from staff members, more than $650,000 was outstanding for over 12 months, including outstanding travel advances of more than $200,000. Our review of accounts receivable

due from other United Nations agencies found that an amount of approximately $800,000 was outstanding with a part of this amount dating back to the 1980s. This included an amount of almost $400,000 due from the United Nations Operation in Somalia, with some charges dating back to 1993.

35. The failure adequately to control receivables may eventually lead to losses. For example, little was done to collect amounts due from separated staff members. One former ECA staff member now with a United Nations agency in Geneva owed ECA in excess of $65,000 since 1992. ECA management advised that this amount was now being recovered through payroll deductions. A similar serious situation existed for receivables due from vendors and other United Nations agencies. A major effort is needed to collect outstanding amounts in order to avoid current and future losses to the Organization.

36. *ECA management acknowledged the problems concerning accounts receivable and attributed those shortcomings to the outdated computer system and a lack of adequate staff resources. They believed that the new computer system, when implemented, would resolve most of the difficulties in the accounts. In the meantime, ECA has been vigorously pursuing collection action and a 31 December 1997 target date had been set for clearing the major receivables.*

B. Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean

1. Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean/Mexico Finance Unit

37. ECLAC Mexico is responsible for maintaining the accounts of both ECLAC and UNEP in Mexico. The audit found that there was no analysis of UNEP accounts to follow up and clear outstanding balances effectively, and that the analysis of ECLAC Mexico's accounts was delayed. These problems resulted from the staffing of the Finance Unit, which was not commensurate with the workload. In addition, some staff members did not have the relevant qualifications and experience.

38. *ECLAC management agreed with the recommendation of the Office that the Finance Unit at ECLAC Mexico be strengthened and indicated that appropriate actions were planned or under way.*

2. Administrative support provided to the United Nations Environment Programme

39. ECLAC provides administrative support to the UNEP Regional Office in Mexico without any formal agreement defining the terms and conditions. UNEP operations represented about one third of ECLAC Mexico's total workload in the areas of personnel, finance and security services. In return, UNEP financed five posts in ECLAC at a total cost of about $86,000 in 1996. In the opinion of the Office of Internal Oversight Services, this did not adequately compensate ECLAC for the additional workload.

40. While the Office supports the concept of common services, it believes that any common administrative arrangement should be based on considerations of economy. Owing to the fact that the UNEP office moved to a different location in 1992, the cost and benefit of the continued administrative support by ECLAC Mexico needed to be assessed.

41. *In response to the recommendation of the Office, ECLAC and UNEP have jointly reassessed the administrative support arrangements and have agreed to conclude an inter-agency support agreement between the two offices.*

C. Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

1. Technical cooperation funds

42. The ESCAP financial statements as at 30 June 1996 showed an accounts payable balance of $9.1 million. This included contributions of donors ($2.9 million) pending establishment of trust funds and savings in respect of completed projects ($3.4 million), the disposition of which was yet to be determined on the advice of donors. To remedy this situation, the Office of Internal Oversight Services recommended that ESCAP expeditiously establish the trust funds for which contributions had already been received, close all completed projects and determine the disposition of unspent balances in consultation with donors. The response of ESCAP management was pending as of the date of the present report.

2. Procurement system

43. A review of ESCAP procurement actions in 1996 revealed that shortcomings that had already been pointed out in earlier audit reports continued to exist. Purchase orders and contracts were awarded repeatedly to a limited number of vendors. The vendor roster was not comprehensive and

did not appear to have been used. Purchase files contained no evidence of a market survey or assessment of competitive quotations, except in a few major cases, and there was little control over procurement actions that were routinely approved. Each request for procurement was processed separately, resulting in the piecemeal issuance of numerous purchase orders.

44. The shortcomings were attributable in part to the lack of qualified staff and inadequate controls over the procurement process. Procurement, which is a part of the Procurement and Transport Unit, consisted of only three local staff members, who were inadequately trained and directly supervised by the Officer-in-Charge of the Unit.

45. The Office recommended, *inter alia*, that ESCAP strengthen the procurement function by assigning Professional staff members, to the extent possible, reassigning staff members who had been in the Section for a long period of time and improving supervision and control.

46. *ESCAP management advised that remedial measures had been undertaken since the arrival of a Professional-level procurement officer in January 1997.*

D. Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia

1. Financial management

47. The Office's review of the physical security at ESCWA over blank cheques and cash receipt vouchers disclosed that the storage conditions did not adequately protect those documents from theft or misuse. There was no register to record the receipt and subsequent issue of such documents in order to identify them in the case of theft or loss.

48. A review of the financial management of two community development projects in the Near East found that the procedures used for the management of cash funds were not in accordance with United Nations financial rules. Bank accounts were opened at both project locations by United Nations Volunteer experts without authorization from the Controller and expenditures from the accounts were not properly controlled. Furthermore, the method of reporting cash expenditures did not provide for adequate internal control over transactions. The Office pointed out that project funds sent to field operations should have been controlled through use of an imprest account, the establishment of which also required approval of the Controller.

49. *ESCWA management concurred with the recommendations of the Office to improve the security over accountable documents and agreed to implement them immediately. They agreed that in the future such projects would be dealt with in accordance with financial rules and the procedures outlined in the audit observation.*

V. Facilities management

A. Economic Commission for Africa

1. Management of the United Nations Conference Centre

50. The United Nations Conference Centre at ECA was recently completed at a cost of over $115 million. In order to attract conferences, the strategy was to set the rates at lower levels than comparative facilities at United Nations conference centres in Bangkok, Vienna and Geneva. While extensive marketing activities were planned to promote the Conference Centre, apparently no studies had been made to assess potential demand. Factors limiting the use of the facilities included limited direct airline connections, inadequate hotel facilities to accommodate large conferences and a shortage of qualified interpreters.

51. The Office recommended that the pricing of fees for the use of the ECA Conference Centre facilities and associated services be reviewed on a regular basis and that the use of the Conference Centre be included in discussions with the host Government when renegotiating provisions of the headquarters agreement.

52. *ECA management agreed and advised that a business strategy workshop had been held with representatives from the business community and the host Government and that proposals for the marketing strategy for the Conference Centre were being finalized.*

2. Accounting for United Nations Conference Centre operations

53. The Conference Centre is not a core activity of ECA, but rather a separate revenue-producing activity. As such, revenues and operating costs for the Conference Centre should be separately accounted for and readily identifiable in ECAs accounting records. To obtain the true cost of this operation, it is essential to identify the proportion of common costs attributed to the running of the conference facilities such as security, building management costs and other common services provided. Unless the costs and

revenues are clearly identified, operating the conference facilities could become a drain on ECA resources.

54. ECA had rented office space to other United Nations agencies and commercial organizations at unrealistically low rental rates, which did not even cover ECA's operating costs, and some government organizations such as banks and airlines were charged no rent at all. No agreements were in place to formalize the rental arrangements and rent payments by some agencies had not been made for long periods.The Office recommended that formal rental agreements be established and that rental rates be reviewed annually.

55. *ECA management agreed with the recommendation of the Office to identify separately the costs of the Centre and stated that this would commence in January 1998. It also agreed with the recommendations concerning the rental of office space and had established a plan for corrective action.*

3. Operation and maintenance of the United Nations Conference Centre

56. In order to operate and maintain the United Nations Conference Centre in an efficient and effective manner, adequate resources need to be provided. The proposed programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997 provided for two engineers at the Professional level and three General Service technical staff. As of the date of the audit, however, only the General Service posts had been filled. In the view of the Office, it was necessary to have adequate technical staff available to supervise the operations and maintenance of the sophisticated equipment and construction of the Centre.

57. Contracts in place for maintenance of the Centre (cleaning services, electro/mechanical maintenance and operation and maintenance of the simultaneous interpretation equipment) totalled approximately $700,000 per year. They were entered into with the original contractors involved in the construction of the Centre on the basis that they were the only ones able to service the facility adequately. However, in the opinion of the Office, international bidding for those services should be undertaken as soon as the current contracts expire in order to attract qualified suppliers.

58. The commencement of operations at the Conference Centre also required additional security protection. Staffing levels, already identified as being inadequate, have not increased to cope with the additional demand and regular staff were being supplemented by 20 personnel employed on special service agreements. To monitor security of the Conference Centre premises, a closed-circuit video camera system was installed. However, other buildings and main entrances to the ECA compound were not covered by the system. The Office recommended that ECA consider extending the system to the other areas in the compound. This would reduce the requirements for additional staff.

59. *ECA management agreed to offer the contracts for international bidding on their next renewal. They stated, however, that the current complement of 64 security guards was adequate to monitor security of the buildings, and that it was unlikely that the Office's recommendation to extend use of the security camera system could be implemented because of budgetary constraints.*

B. Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

1. Rental rates

60. A previous internal audit report issued in July 1993 had recommended, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 41/213 of 19 December 1986, that ESCAP consider the feasibility of further raising rental charges to specialized agencies in order to narrow the gap with prevailing commercial rates. Rental charges levied at that time ($106 per square metre per annum) were approximately one half of the prevailing commercial rates. In response, ESCAP had indicated that it would aim to raise the gross rent charged to United Nations bodies and specialized agencies progressively over several years. A new rate of $120 per square metre per annum was established with effect from 1 January 1994. There was no further increase since that time. The issue was also addressed by the Board of Auditors.

61. *ESCAP management agreed that there was a need for a further revision of rental rates based on a fresh assessment of the prevailing commercial rates. Management subsequently advised that it intended to change the rental structure in accordance with the recommendations of the Office and that the new rental rates would most probably take effect from 1 January 1998.*

2. Treatment and use of rental income

62. The proposed programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995 estimated income of $462,500 from the rental of ESCAP premises. The budget indicated that the estimate was provisional since additional rental income was expected as a result of the completion of the ESCAP conference complex. There was no estimate in the budget of income from reimbursement for services provided to specialized agencies and others.

63. Total rental income realized during 1994-1995 in respect of the ESCAP building and Conference Centre was

$2.2 million, $493,000 of which was from the Conference Centre. The audit disclosed that approximately $490,000 of building rental receipts, as well as all receipts from the Conference Centre and the receipts from other ESCAP revenue-producing activities, such as garage operations, catering and exhibitions, were credited to a fund-in-trust that was used for meeting expenses outside the allotment accounts. As of October 1996, the balance in the fund exceeded $1 million, which was treated as an account payable in the ESCAP accounts. This practice had not been authorized by the Office of Programme Planning, Budget and Accounts. A large portion of the rental receipts was apparently being improperly utilized to employ additional staff, thereby circumventing budgetary control.

64. *A response from ESCAP to the recommendations of the Office concerning the treatment and use of rental income was still pending as of the date of the present report.*

C. Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia

1. Relocation of Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia headquarters

65. The Economic and Social Council, in its resolution 1994/93, decided that the new permanent headquarters of ESCWA would be located in Beirut. Although the date of the move was not precisely known at the time of the audit in December 1996, it was anticipated that the office building would be ready in the latter part of 1997. In view of the budgetary constraints facing the Organization, the Council had made it clear that the financing of the move would have to come primarily from extrabudgetary contributions. This position was confirmed by the Under-Secretary-General for Administration and Management in a letter to the Executive Secretary dated 4 May 1995.

66. Although a steering committee and technical committee had been established to plan the move, at the time of the audit plans had not been finalized for moving physical equipment and assets, recruiting local staff or procuring the required services. ESCWA had prepared a budget for the move totalling approximately $4.4 million; however, the budget estimates appeared to be too low. They did not take into account, for example, the purchase of any office furniture and equipment, satellite telecommunications, radio equipment, fibre optic computer cabling or security access system equipment. The budget also did not identify sources of funding and any pledges made. The Office of Internal Oversight Services recommended that ESCWA revise the budget, establish a detailed moving plan with milestone the different activities and initiate a headquarters agree with the new host Government.

67. *ESCWA management revised the budget upwa $5.5 million and advised that the future host Govern had agreed to provide much of the needed equipment. stated that a detailed plan had been established, tha transfer of ESCWA staff and assets from Amman to B had proceeded in accordance with the plan and had n been completed at the time the present report was final They also advised that the headquarters agreement wit host Government had been finalized on 27 August 199 that a supplementary agreement with the host Govern relating to the occupancy and use of the United Na premises in Beirut had been signed on 9 October 199*

VI. Information technology management

A. Economic and Social Commission for A and the Pacific

1. Security, disaster planning and prevention

68. The audit found that no formal security poli guidelines or procedures had been developed or implem at ESCAP and that the Commission's Electronic Ser Section did not have any staff with the expertise to dev and maintain adequate security. For the mainf computer, generally accepted standards for password le were not implemented and there were no expiration dat obligatory periodic change of passwords. The system therefore, exposed to unauthorized access in an unmonit environment. Similar shortcomings existed for the local network system and for electronic mail.

69. All direct access storage devices situated in the ce computer room were being backed up and rotated off-s a fireproof, heavy-duty safe in the Conference Centre a back-up disaster recovery service agreement had established with an outside provider. While some o initial disaster recovery steps had been taken, a full dis recovery plan had not yet been implemented at ES There was still a need for a disaster analysis o mainframe computer and local area network, and a dis test plan for a rehearsal at the back-up site. Dis prevention was also in need of further analysis improvement. The Office recommended that ES establish an independent security function withi Electronic Services Section with overall responsibilit

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The Office further recommended that ESCAP develop a disaster recovery plan to ensure a level of system dependability that satisfied the requirements of both ESCAP and Headquarters.

70. *ESCAP management advised that implementation of the recommendations was dependent on filling the vacant post of supervisor of technical services. ESCAP was seeking Headquarters approval to proceed with recruitment of candidates possessing the necessary background and experience.*

[illegible]

a. *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 6* (A/48/6/Rev.1), vols. I and II.

b. Ibid., *Forty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 6* (A/45/6/Rev.1), vols. I and II.

c. Ibid., *Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 6* (A/50/6/Rev.1), vols. I and II.

B. Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia

1. Disaster planning and prevention

71. At the time of the audit, no disaster recovery plan and no alternative processing plans had been established. The audit disclosed the need for a disaster analysis, a disaster test plan and actual periodic performance of the disaster rehearsal. Disaster prevention also needed further analysis and improvement and ESCWA needed dependable technology to support its substantive objectives, communication needs and administrative requirements. Therefore, the Office recommended that ESCWA develop a disaster recovery plan and evaluate and test the environmental plans for Beirut to ensure that all specifications agreed to were implemented and functioning.

72. *ESCWA management concurred with these recommendations and advised that disaster planning/prevention for electronic data-processing operations would be implemented as part of its overall data-processing strategy.*

[illegible]

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Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations

Report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Office of Internal Oversight Services

Note by the Secretary-General

1. Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 48/218 B of 29 July 1994, the Secretary-General has the honour to transmit, for the attention of the General Assembly, the attached report, conveyed to him by the Under-Secretary-General for Internal Oversight Services, concerning the review of programme management in the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Division.

2. The Secretary-General takes note of its findings and concurs with its recommendations.

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e Office of Internal Oversight Services on the ogramme management in the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Division

Prevention and Criminal Justice Division operates under the overall e Director General of the United Nations Office at Vienna, who also ited Nations International Drug Control Programme. Yet, there is little dance and oversight provided by top management, which suggests that the has been conducting its work in a quasi-independent manner.

guidance and direct involvement of upper management is manifest in the clear strategic direction, including resource mobilization. It is also manifest in the manner in which the resources of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme are being managed and the priorities are being addressed.

While it is acknowledged that the resources available are not commensurate with the increasing demands on the programme, it should also be acknowledged that the approach of the secretariat towards the challenges posed by the financial constraints appear thus far to be piecemeal and lacking strategic thinking. As a result, resources have been spread very thinly and in many instances are insufficient for a meaningful contribution towards the issues covered.

was impressed with the staff motivation and hard work in the Division and noted the considerable amount of work being done on a broad range of issues. However, there is a strong indication that the programme is becoming less focused and that priorities are not being given sufficient attention. Should this be allowed to continue, the programme could spread in an unprioritized and unstructured manner.

constraints require strict selectivity in the issues to be covered and e action to be taken in respect of each of these issues. Issues of overlap rities with other organizations must also be addressed at the programme In this connection, it is noted that a substantial part of the Division's work ated matters and topics that fall within the purview of other organizations for Human Rights, the United Nations International Drug Control nited Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations Centre for an Settlements (Habitat), the United Nations Environment Programme rtment for Peacekeeping Operations and the Division for the Advancement his is not to say that the work is duplicative, but one could certainly make better division of labour through building up more effective collaborative other programmes and United Nations entities, in particular the United f institutes that deal with crime.

t to the selectivity of issues to be covered, the ongoing efforts by the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to impose self restraint in the mandates is indeed commendable and should be encouraged. However, ts need to be undertaken by the secretariat to focus more on its programme greater integration of interrelated issues into fewer activities and by

refraining from expanding its role in areas where it does not have a comparative advantage and/or where the value added of its contribution is minimal. In this regard, the programme planning and budgetary process should be used more effectively than has been the case up to this point. This is particularly important with respect to the preparation of programme budget implications in response to new mandates.

In this connection, it is worth stressing that any efforts of the secretariat to rationalize the use of its resources or to produce more with less require an assessment and evaluation of the programme's activities in order to identify areas which lend themselves to streamlining. A first step in this direction would be to effect a clearer balance between the role that the secretariat wishes to assume as a servicing body and its role as a provider of technical assistance. Currently, the largest proportion of the Division's activities is directed to servicing legislative bodies. Clarity is also necessary with respect to the nature of the servicing that the secretariat provides, (i.e., substantive and analytical, versus compilation of responses to questionnaires and provision of background information).

The secretariat also needs to address the question of the relatively large volume of documentation prepared for the Commission. It appears paradoxical that despite resource constraints, the secretariat has endeavoured, year after year, to add, on its own initiative, a substantial number of documents and conference room papers for the Commission's meetings. Therefore, the documentation issued by the Division ought to be given a fresh look and critically examined in order to ascertain whether its periodicity is warranted and whether some of the issues covered could be subsumed or consolidated in fewer documents. A better utilization of the scarce resources available for technical assistance is also warranted. Thus, it was noted that during the period 1994-1997, 49 per cent of the tasks and missions undertaken by the two interregional advisers dealt with non-operational or advisory matters.

Much remains to be done by the secretariat to reorient the programme from standard-setting to a greater emphasis on assistance to Member States in implementing standards and in researching issues relating to transnational and organized crimes. The current skills profile of the Division's staff would not appear to facilitate such a reorientation. Accordingly, a parallel reorganization and reorientation of staff skills is essential. Equally essential is the establishment of an effective system for tracking progress in programme implementation, assessing results and providing feedback to upper management. At present, such a system is non-existent.

Last but not least, the new managerial structure in Vienna presents an opportunity for maximizing the resource base of the programme, first, by fostering synergies between the crime and drug programmes, and second, by absorbing some non-substantive functions relating to the secretariat of the Commission and administrative support. In essence, every effort should be made to ensure that the resources of the programme are entirely devoted to the execution of the mandated work, and that those in charge of the programme are sufficiently empowered to authorize expenditures from the programme's appropriation. The current arrangement, whereby the certifying authority rests solely with administration, blurs responsibility and should be discontinued.

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I. Introduction

1. The origin of the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Division is traceable to the Section of Social Defence, which was created shortly after the establishment of the United Nations.

2. One of the first activities of the Section of Social Defence was to gather and compile official crime statistics from Member States. Later, the Section was reorganized and renamed the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Section. In 1977, the Section was elevated to a Branch and placed under the overall direction of the Assistant Secretary-General for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs. After a subsequent reorganization of the economic and social sectors of the United Nations and the dissolution of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs, the Branch was affiliated with the United Nations Office at Vienna under the Direction of the Director-General of the United Nations Office at Vienna.

3. At its fiftieth session, the General Assembly approved the elevation of the Branch to the status of Division. More recently, as part of the Secretary-General's reform measures submitted to the fifty-first session of the General Assembly (A/51/950), it is proposed to strengthen the Division for Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and transform it into a Centre for International Crime Prevention. The new Centre will operate within a common managerial structure with the United Nations International Drug Control Programme. Together they will form a new Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention under the direction of the Executive Director of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme.

4. In terms of work, the major focus of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme since its establishment in the early 1950s until 1992, was on setting standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice. Throughout the years, a series of standards and norms has been developed and adopted. A related major activity during the period has been the organization and preparation of the quinquennial United Nations congresses on the prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders. The First Congress was held at Geneva in 1955, and the Ninth Congress was held at Cairo in 1995.

5. Since 1992, and pursuant to General Assembly resolution 46/152 of 18 December 1991, the programme has been undergoing a reorientation from standard setting to a greater emphasis on assistance to Member States in implementing standards and norms and in meeting the challenges of crime prevention and criminal justice as set forth in the statement of principles and programme of action contained in the annex to resolution 46/152. The aforementioned resolution also called for the establishment of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice that, as of the same year, became the policy-making body of the United Nations in the field of crime control. Composed of representatives of 40 Governments, the Commission is a functional commission of the Economic and Social Council. Its sessions are held annually in Vienna. So far, six sessions of the Commission have been held, the latest from 28 April to 9 May 1997.

6. At its first session, in 1992, the Commission decided that the following priority areas should guide its work:

(a) International action to combat national and transnational crime, organized crime and economic crime, including money laundering;

(b) Promoting the role of criminal law in the protection of the environment;

(c) Crime prevention in urban areas, juvenile and violent criminality;

(d) Improving the efficiency and fairness of the administration of the criminal justice systems, with due emphasis on the strengthening of national capacities in developing countries for the regular collection, collation, analysis and utilization of data in the development and implementation of appropriate policies.

In addition, the Commission decided to make technical assistance and standards and norms in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice standing items the agenda for future sessions.

7. The implementation of policies set by the Commission is the responsibility of the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Division. The responsibilities of the Division as stipulated in General Assembly resolution 46/152 are as follows:

(a) To mobilize existing resources, including institutes, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and other competent authorities for the implementation of the programme;

(b) To coordinate research, training and the collection of data on crime and justice, and provide technical assistance and practical information for Member States, particularly through the Global Crime and Criminal Justice Information Network;

(c) To assist the Commission in the preparation of its work and in the preparations for the congresses and any other events relating to the programme;

(d) To ensure that potential donors are put in touch with countries needing criminal justice assistance;

(e) To make the case for assistance in the field of criminal justice to the appropriate funding agencies.

8. In response to the urgent needs for international cooperation against crime, the priority areas adopted by the Commission at its first session were reaffirmed and elaborated further during various subsequent sessions. Accordingly, there has been a sharp increase in the number of mandates and the demands placed on the programme. Most of these demands cover a broad range of crime-related issues and complex questions of criminal justice policy. These issues are likely to remain on the agenda of the international community into the twenty-first century. However, because of the discrepancy between the resources available to the programme and the increasing demands on it, serious concerns have been raised over the possibility of spreading the work of the Division in an unprioritized, unfocused and unstructured manner.

9. It is against this background that the Office of Internal Oversight Services fielded a team to conduct the present review, with the purpose of assessing whether the Division was operating in an environment that facilitated the efficient and effective implementation of the work programme. In conducting its review, the team visited Vienna during the last week of June 1997 and conducted interviews with most of the staff of the Division, including the interregional advisers, the associate experts and the interns associated with the work of the Division. The Team met with the Officer-in-Charge of the United Nations Office at Vienna and interviewed senior staff of the administration. It also sought the views of some representatives of States members of the Commission. The situation described in the present report is that prevailing at the time of the inspection.

10. Upon completion of the field work, the team examined a substantial number of documents relating to various aspects of the programme and its management. The findings and conclusions of the review are set out in sections II, III and IV below. They are followed by a set of recommendations to be acted upon by the management of the programme.

11. The comments of management were sought on the draft report and were taken into account in the preparation of the final report. The team greatly appreciates the cooperation extended to it by the officials at the United Nations Office at Vienna and the staff of the Division during the review and notes with satisfaction the positive reaction of management to the issues raised in the report. The Executive Director of the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention, Mr. Pino Arlacchi, has endorsed all the recommendations made and has indicated that they were in line with the plans and initiatives he had already taken.

II. Issues of substance

12. The team devoted a good part of its review to the programme and the way in which the secretariat had been organizing its work and utilizing the resources apportioned to it to address the priority areas designated by the Commission. In this regard, the team noted that the current programme structure consists of four subprogrammes, namely:

(a) *Subprogramme 1:* Operational activities, planning and overall coordination;

(b) *Subprogramme 2:* Collaborative action against transnational crime;

(c) *Subprogramme 3:* Crime prevention and criminal justice management;

(d) *Subprogramme 4:* Crime prevention and criminal justice standards and norms.

Subprogrammes (1) and (2) have been designated high priority in the context of the programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997.

13. A lot of technical work is done under subprogrammes (3) and (4), in particular in the areas of collection of data on crime and criminal justice in the setting of standards and norms and in the provision of practical information to Member States through the Global Crime and Criminal Justice Information Network, but the largest proportion of the activities of the Division remains the servicing of its legislative body, namely, the Commission. Thus, the team's review of the programme of work over the period 1994-1997, suggests that it is primarily conceived and structured to service the Commission in the form of preparing parliamentary documentation. An examination of 66 reports and 48 conference room papers submitted to the Commission during that period suggest that, by and large, the servicing was more logistical then substantive. The documentation examined consisted mainly of:

(a) Descriptions of activities undertaken by expert and working groups or other United Nations organizations and intersessional consultations;

(b) Compilations of responses received from Member States on topics relating to standards and norms;

(c) A few studies and overviews relating to specific issues requested by the Commission.

14. The documentation covered a wide variety of matters relating to organized crime, money laundering, the proceeds of crime, juvenile justice, administration of justice, crime prevention, violence against women, urban crime, trafficking in minors, alien smuggling, corruption, economic and environmental crime, firearm regulations and United Nations standards and norms. Other documentation included progress reports on the strengthening of technical cooperation, coordination and international cooperation and strategic management.

15. In this regard, the team noted that the bulk of the documentation prepared related to issues that fell under non-priority subprogrammes. Only a handful of reports addressed the high priority subprogramme of transnational crime.

16. Turning to the activities falling under the first high priority subprogramme, dealing with operational activities, the team reviewed 74 mission reports prepared by the two interregional advisers attached to the Division, and noted that from 1994 until mid-1997, most requests for technical assistance were geared towards increasing the professionalism of police, prosecutors, judges, magistrates and correctional officers. In other cases, assistance was provided for reorganizing a major department in the justice system. In a few cases, seminars and workshops were organized on issues relating to organized transnational crimes.

17. In this regard, the team noted that a substantial number of the missions conducted by the interregional advisers did not relate to operational activities or advisory services. They consisted mainly of participating in and attending expert meetings, promoting cooperative arrangements and fund-raising to finance project proposals. The team is of the opinion that most such activities fall within the responsibility of the secretariat staff. Accordingly, it could not escape the conclusion that the meagre resources available for technical assistance were being further reduced by detracting them from their original purposes.

18. In the light of the above findings, the team is of the opinion that the programme of work as a whole appears to lack direction and focus. Consequently, resources have been spread thinly over a broad range of issues. The problem is compounded by the ever-increasing number of mandates emanating from legislative bodies by which the secretariat is requested to submit additional reports and to convene meetings. In this regard, the team noted that, since 1992, the number of resolutions adopted that call for specific action by the secretariat has almost tripled, from 6 resolutions in 1992 to a high 20 in 1994 and then down to 17 in both 1996 and 1997. It also noted that in the absence of clear strategic direction, little effort was made to rationalize the process, either through strict selectivity of issues to be dealt with, or through the preparation of statements of programme budget implications for the consideration of the legislative body concerned before initiating work towards implementing a resolution.

19. Of the 87 resolutions passed during the period 1992-1997, the team came across only three instances in which a statement of programme budget implications was prepared. These instances related to the preparation of a survey or the organization of expert group meetings. Many resolutions requested the secretariat to report on specific topics, and the preparation of such reports, though time- consuming, has been addressed from within existing resources. Available figures on work-month utilization during the biennium 1994-1995, suggest that an average of 30 per cent of the Professional staff time in the Division was utilized in producing parliamentary documentation. In this connection, the team took note of the fact that the secretariat had endeavoured, year after year, to produce additional documents and conference room papers for submission to Commission meetings.

20. While it is acknowledged that the resources available are not commensurate with the increasing demands on the programme, it should also be acknowledged that the approach of the secretariat towards the challenges posed by the financial constraints appears, so far, to be piecemeal and lacking strategic thinking. As a result, resources have been spread thinly, to the point of losing the critical mass necessary for a meaningful contribution towards the issues covered. In this connection, it is noted that a substantial part of the Division's work deals with interrelated matters on topics that fall within the purview of other United Nations entities (i.e., the Centre for Human Rights, the United Nations International Drug Control Programme, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations Centre for Habitat and Human Settlements (Habitat), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, the Department for Development Support and Management Services, the Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development etc.). This is not to say that the work is duplicative, but one could certainly make a strong case for a better division of labour through building more effective collaborative relationships with other programmes and United Nations entities, particularly the United Nations network of institutes that deal with crime. In the team's view, a better division of labour would maximize the

potential of the existing resources of the Division and strengthen the programme as a whole.

21. Financial constraints require strict selectivity in the issues to be covered and the prioritization of action to be taken in respect of each of these issues. Issues of overlap and complementarities with other organizations must also be addressed at the programme preparation stage. With respect to the selectivity of issues to be covered, the team noted recent efforts made by the Commission with regard to the establishment of practical and effective rules for the strategic management of the Division. These efforts included the simplification of the Commission's agenda, the reduction of the number of resolutions, the limitation of requests for more reports, the formulation of multi-year work plans so that each year is devoted to the discussion of a specific subject or theme and the elaboration of a set of criteria to guide the Commission in selecting agenda items for its sessional meetings. While these efforts may contribute to aligning mandates with resource requirements, the team believes that simultaneous efforts need to be undertaken by the secretariat to focus more on its programme of work through greater integration of interrelated issues into fewer activities and by refraining from expanding its role in areas where it does not have a comparative advantage and/or where the value added of its contribution is minimal. In this regard, the programme planning and budgetary process should be used more effectively than has been the case up to this point in time. This is particularly true with respect to the preparation of programme budget implications in response to new mandates. It is also true of the manner in which the secretariat translates the mandates into activities at the stage of formulating its proposed programme of work.

III. Coordination and oversight

A. Coordination

22. The Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Division does not have a system to ensure the proper coordination of the programme. This is particularly evident in the case of those institutes that work closely under the United Nations umbrella. The current arrangement to exploit existing complementarities with these institutes and to seek better integration of their respective programmes with that of the Division appears to be extremely modest and less than expected for a secretariat mandated to do so as part of its overall primary responsibility, especially when this aspect of the work is designated high priority.

23. The team is aware of existing collaborative arrangements between the Division, the United Nations International Drug Control Programme, the Department for Development Support and Management Services, the Centre for Human Rights, the Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development and other United Nations entities. However, the collaboration with the United Nations-affiliated institutes that address the same programmatic objectives, carries different weight. Currently, there are five interregional/regional institutes: the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI), the United Nations Asia and Far East Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, the United Nations African Regional Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, the European Institute for Crime Prevention and Control and the United Nations Latin American Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, as well as seven other affiliated institutes. The team's findings suggest that, aside from the annual coordination meetings, the reports to the Commission on the activities of the institutes and some ad hoc collaborative undertakings by the interregional advisers, the involvement of the Division with the institutes remains formal and far from effective. Yet, the importance of coordination and collaboration with these institutes has been stressed in a number of General Assembly and Economic and Social Council resolutions. In particular, in the statement of principles and programme of action of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme contained in the annex to Assembly resolution 46/152, the following collaborative arrangements are considered essential for the creation of an effective programme, and for strengthening its operational capacity:

(a) The institutes should keep one another and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice informed on a regular basis about their programme of work and its implementation;

(b) The Commission may request the institutes, subject to the availability of resources, to implement select elements of the programme;

(c) The Commission may also suggest areas for inter-institute activities;

(d) The Commission shall seek to mobilize extrabudgetary support for the activities of the institutes.

24. In this connection, the team noted that some of the institutes are extending their activities beyond research, towards the provision of technical assistance and training. UNICRI is a case in point. The institute is financed through extrabudgetary resources, and its staffing strength surpasses

that of the Division. It was originally conceived as the "research arm" of the Division. However, its involvement in providing technical assistance is duplicative to the work of the Division.

25. The team is of the opinion that there exists a host of untapped possibilities for closer collaboration between the Division and the institutes. The ultimate objective of such a collaboration is to establish a clear division of labour and to optimize the utilization of resources available to the programme as a whole. In this connection, it is worth noting that management acknowledges the necessity of exploring complementarities and strengthening the working relations between the Division and the institutes. It attributes the existing insufficient level of coordination to the lack of resources. The team could not subscribe to this explanation and believes that the issue is one of effective utilization of resources through prioritization. There is little evidence to suggest that the issue of coordination with the institutes has been given the attention it deserves by management. Thus, the work-months reported utilized for coordination in the biennium 1994-1995, amounted to 30 per cent of the total staffing resources of the Division, i.e., 137 work-months. Of this total, only 6.5 work-months were reported utilized for coordination with the institutes.

26. A first step in the direction of strengthening the collaboration between the Division and the United Nations-affiliated institutes should be to reaffirm the role of the Commission in overseeing the activities of these institutes and to ensure that their work is supportive to and not competitive with the Division. The team is of the view that the oversight function should be exercised by the Division, as the Secretariat body within the United Nations system that implements the policy decisions of the Commission, formulates policy options and coordinates crime prevention and criminal justice activities, both within the United Nations and at the intergovernmental level. The secretariat should report to the Commission on the extent to which the work of the institutes is focusing on the priorities and on the degree of coherence between their respective work programmes.

B. Self-monitoring and self-evaluation

27. The team did not come across any systematic monitoring of the implementation of the work programme against established objectives, schedules or standards. In this connection, it was noted that the reporting by the Division on the status of implementation of its 1994-1995 programme of work for inclusion in the report of the Secretary-General on the programme performance of the United Nations (A/51/128 and Add.1) was inadequate. In many instances, the reporting did not reflect properly what was actually produced by the Division and/or the attendant resources in work-months. It was evident to the team that there was little oversight within the Division to ensure the authenticity of the information reported by individual programme managers. As for self evaluation,it is practically non-existent. As noted earlier, the existing resources are stretched too thin,and insufficient attention is given to evaluating results and using findings to improve the programme.

28. With the present state of affairs, the team is of the opinion that the management of the Division did not put in place adequate means to oversee effectively its programme of work and identify weaknesses in implementation. Accordingly, it also lacks an informed basis for allocating its scarce resources or providing feedback to upper management on important programmatic and managerial issues.

29. In this connection, it is worth stressing that any efforts of the secretariat to rationalize the use of its resources or to produce more with less require the assessment and evaluation of the programme's activities in order to identify areas that lend themselves to streamlining. A first step in this direction would be to provide a clearer balance between the role that the secretariat wishes to assume as a servicing body and its role as a provider of technical assistance. Clarity is also necessary with respect to the nature of the servicing that the secretariat provides (i.e., substantive and analytical versus compilation of responses to questionnaires and provision of background information).

30. The secretariat also needs to address the question of the relatively large volume of documentation prepared for the Commission. The documentation issued by the Division ought to be given a fresh look and critically examined in order to ascertain whether its periodicity is warranted and whether some of the issues covered could be subsumed or consolidated into fewer documents. In this connection, it is worth conducting some workload analysis for the documentation issued in order to establish some standards or norms against which efficiency could be monitored.

IV. Issues of organization, staffing and management

31. The resources at the disposal of the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Division are modest. The bulk of it comes from the regular budget of the United Nations. During

the biennium 1996-1997, the Division's authorized staffing table consisted of 16 Professional and 6 General Service posts. The programme also had at its disposal six Junior Professional posts funded from extrabudgetary resources and two interregional advisers funded under the regular programme for technical cooperation. In addition, three experts paid for by their respective Governments and eight interns were working full time with the Division at the time of the team's visit to Vienna.

32. Prior to 1996, the Division did not have any organizational structure, and the staff were utilized interchangeably to address a variety of issues. The first organizational chart of the Division was formalized in 1996, as reflected in the Secretary-General's bulletin of 6 June 1996 (ST/SGB/Organization, Section:UNOV) (see annex). Accordingly, two sections and two units were established, namely, the Operational Activities and Commission's Secretariat Section, the Transnational Crime Section, the Criminal Justice Systems Management and Information Unit and the Crime Prevention and Strategies Unit. The organizational chart corresponded to the four subprogrammes in the 1996-1997 programmatic structure. The distribution of the staffing resources in the budget document reflected the relative priorities set by the Commission.

33. On the basis of the interviews conducted and information obtained regarding the work-month utilization, it is not clear whether the programme's priorities were adhered to during implementation. The staff of the Division continued to be used interchangeably to address all issues on the agenda with no apparent prioritization. As a result, resources have been spread too thinly and, in many instances, the critical mass necessary for a meaningful contribution towards the issues addressed was not available. In this connection, the team noted that the responsibilities for the Commission's secretariat functions, the operational activities and overall coordination have been grouped together and assigned to the Deputy Director of the Division, who also acts as focal point vis-à-vis the United Nations Office at Vienna on various budgetary, financial and personnel matters. In the team's view, the Division's meagre resources should be devoted entirely to implementing the programme. The burden of the Commission's secretariat functions could be assumed by the United Nations International Drug Control Programme. This is particularly relevant, in the light of the common managerial structure proposed by the Secretary-General and referred to in paragraph 3 above. As for the administrative functions, the team believes that they could be entrusted to an administrative assistant or a junior administrative officer, who could be redeployed from the administrative structure of the United Nations Office at Vienna. The skills of the Deputy Director of the Division could be put to better use by addressing the priority issues under subprogramme (1), particularly as they relate to programme oversight and overall coordination. Special efforts need to be made to put these functions on a firm standing, as suggested in section II above.

34. The diversity in the scope of activities undertaken by the Division has blurred the focus and strategic direction of the programme as a whole and has rendered the relation between the subprogrammes and the organizational structure artificial. In our view, two important factors have contributed to this state of affairs:

(a) The lack of direct involvement of upper management in providing strategic direction to the Division's work. There is little evidence of guidance or oversight provided by the Director General, under whose overall direction the Division operates. In this connection, the team took note of the fact that the Director General approves and transmits the medium-term plan and the programme budget proposals to Headquarters. He also clears all travel requests emanating from the Division. However, such action appears to be formal in nature, and there is no indication of guidance provided to shape the direction of the programme and/or optimize the utilization of resources. There is also little evidence of concerted efforts made by upper management to raise funds in support of the programmes. Under the circumstances, the team could not escape the impression that, since its establishment, the Division has been working in a quasi-independent manner.

(b) The availability of qualified expertise. Staff of the Division have accumulated a fairly unique knowledge with regard to the system of international standards and norms and the related procedures for their implementation. The team noted that over the years, a lot of good work has been undertaken in this area and that such work has been acclaimed by the Commission. In no small measure, this is attributed to the high motivation and dedication of the staff. During the interviews, the team was indeed impressed by the enthusiasm and commitment of those working in the Division. However, the level of expertise of the staff is modest when it comes to addressing newly emerging needs in the areas of organized crime and its related consequences. Expertise is also limited when it comes to supporting operational activities in terms of project formulation, implementation and assessment.

35. In this connection, the team noted that most of the staff have been working with the Division since its establishment

as a Branch under the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs. Most of them still carry the functional title of "Social Affairs Officer", on their P-5 action forms, and many job descriptions examined did not reflect the changes in the functions of the incumbents. It was also clear that over the years most of them have had little time or opportunity to upgrade their knowledge and expertise to meet the challenges of the new requirements of the programme except through on-the-job training. In this regard, the team did not come across any training programmes organized by management to keep staff abreast of the latest developments and thinking in their respective fields of work. The result is that most of the staff could be considered "generalists" on different issues of crime prevention and criminal justice. They are experienced, but their technical capabilities have not evolved much to address the shift of emphasis in the programme from standards and norms to transnational organized crime and its linkages with terrorism, violence and money laundering. The situation is compounded by the fact that in recent years there has been little recruitment of outside expertise.

36. Under the circumstances, the emphasis given to issues of relatively lower priority in the formulation and implementation of the programme becomes more understandable. In order to address these new challenges, better knowledge and certain expertise is needed on the nature, dynamics and operation of the diversified forms of organized crime. The team believes that the Division should endeavour to build a core of specialized staff in key areas, both through the provision of intensive training to upgrade the expertise of existing staff and through outside recruitment whenever a vacancy arises. The above should lead to a reorganization of the Division's structure to reflect this specialization. Furthermore, in view of the reorientation of the programme, a growing component of the Division's work will eventually consist of advisory services and technical cooperation projects. In the team's view, the absence of adequate expertise within the Division for effective project appraisal, execution and assessment, and the noticeable lack of knowledge in project development and management are matters that need to be addressed through training. The availability of such expertise is essential to provide qualitative support to technical assistance activities in the form of research. This aspect reinforces the need for a specialized core staff referred to earlier.

37. The administrative and financial management of the Division is handled by the United Nations Office at Vienna. Thus, all travel requests have to be approved by the Office of the Director General and the requests for consultants are screened by the administration of the United Nations Office at Vienna, which also approves payments after receiving a copy of the consultant's work to ascertain the delivery of services. In the team's view, the administration is assuming the responsibility of an executive office and, to some extent, the responsibility of the programme manager. The team attributes this anomaly to the absence of executive office capabilities within the Division and to the fact that the certification authority for committing funds appropriated to the Division rests solely with the administration of the United Nations Office at Vienna and not the Director of the Division.

38. The team is of the opinion that the above situation has blurred the accountability of the programme manager without necessarily contributing to enhancing the efficiency and effectiveness of resource utilization. The Director of the Division should be empowered to clear the travel of his staff and authorize disbursements from the sums allotted to the programme. He should assume full responsibility for ascertaining the delivery of services by the staff of the Division, including the consultants working for the programme. The administration's role should be limited to monitoring the exercise of this authority and approving expenditures.

V. Recommendations

39. The Director General should establish internal arrangements to provide guidance and strategic direction to the Division, including resource mobilization. (SP-97-001-1) (para. 34)

40. The Director General should ensure that the Division establishes a system for self monitoring and self evaluation, and that such a system is capable of providing his office with the necessary feedback to enable him to exercise his oversight responsibility. (SP-97-001-2) (paras. 27 and 28)

41. The Division should reorganize its work in a manner that focuses on the relative priorities of the programme and should avoid spreading the limited resources thinly. (SP-97-001-3) (paras. 15-18, 21 and 27)

42. A clearer balance should be established between the role of the secretariat as a servicing body and its role as a provider of technical assistance and policy advice to Member States. (SP-97-001-4) (paras. 19 and 29)

43. The secretariat should aim at providing servicing of a more substantive nature for the meetings of the Commission, in the form of qualitative analysis of emerging issues and policy options for consideration by the Commission. (SP-97-001-5) (para. 13)

44. Parliamentary documentation should be critically examined in order to ascertain whether its periodicity is warranted. The possibility of reducing the volume of documentation by subsuming the issues covered under a few documents should be explored. (SP-97-001-6) (paras. 19 and 30)

45. The services of the interregional advisers should be mainly directed towards the provision of technical assistance to Member States. The use of their services for any other purposes should be discontinued. (SP-97-001-7) (para. 17)

46. The Division should establish an effective system for tracking the progress of programme implementation, assessing results and providing feedback to upper management, namely, the Director General. (SP-97-001-8) (paras. 27 and 28)

47. Concerted efforts need to be made to build a more effective collaborative relationship with the United Nations network of institutes that deal with crime. The Division should endeavour to involve itself at the stage of formulation of the respective programmes of the institutes and should assume an active role in influencing the content and direction of such programmes. This can only be achieved if adequate institutional arrangements are established to ensure that the United Nations-affiliated institutes operate under the aegis of the Division. (SP-97-001-9) (paras. 22-26)

48. The Deputy Director of the Division should be fully involved in implementing the activities under high priority subprogramme 1. These are reflected in the three recommendations contained in paragraphs 45 to 47 above. (SP-97-001-10) (para. 33)

49. The management of the Division should ensure that a statement of programme budget implications is submitted to the Commission before any steps are taken to undertake activities emanating from new resolutions. The statement must emphasize the workload burden and the programmatic implications in the absence of funding already identified and secured for the implementation of such activities. (SP-97-001-11) (para. 21)

50. The Division should endeavour to build up a core of technical staff specialized in the emerging areas related to organized crime, both through the provision of adequate training to upgrade existing expertise and through outside recruitment. Training is also required in project development and management to provide the necessary support to technical assistance activities. (SP-97-001-12) (paras. 34-36)

51. The internal structure of the Division should be reorganized according to the specialization lines referred to above. (SP-97-001-13) (para. 36)

52. The Director of the Division should be empowe[red] to the full extent allowable by the Personnel and Fin[ancial] Regulations of the United Nations. This should inclu[de] authority to certify expenditures from the progra[mme] appropriations. That empowerment should be docum[ented] as part of the authority delegated by the Director Gen[eral] a senior manager responsible for the implementatio[n] programme. The delegation should clearly reflect the [limits] of such authority and the accountability that accomp[anies] it. (SP-97-001-14) (para. 38)

53. The Division of Administration should provi[de] necessary administrative support to the Division throu[gh] redeployment of an administrative officer, who wou[ld] as the operational partner of the administration [for] financial, human resources and support ma[tters] (SP-97-001-15) (para. 33)

(*Signed*) Karl Th. **Pa[ul]**
Under-Secretary-Gener[al]
Internal Oversight Se[rvice]

Appendix

Organizational chart

UNITED
NATIONS

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General Assembly
Security Council

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GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fifty-second session
Agenda item 61
QUESTION OF CYPRUS

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-third year

Letter dated 22 January 1998 from the Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith a letter dated 22 January 1998 addressed to you by His Excellency Mr. Aytuğ Plümer, Representative of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (see annex).

I should be grateful if the text of the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 61, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Hüseyin E. ÇELEM
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

ANNEX

Letter dated 22 January 1998 from Mr. Aytuğ Plümer addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to refer to the letter dated 30 December 1997 addressed to you by the Greek Cypriot representative at the United Nations, which contains outrageous charges regarding cultural property in the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (A/52/756-S/1997/1020).

At the outset, I would like to remind the Greek Cypriot side that there is no "occupation" in Cyprus other than the 34-year-old occupation of the seat of government by the Greek Cypriot side and to stress that the reckless exploitation of the usurped title of "Government of Cyprus" as a weapon against the Turkish Cypriot side has been the main obstacle in the way of attaining a peaceful settlement in Cyprus.

Unfounded allegations on "systematic plundering" and "destruction" of cultural property in Northern Cyprus have been conclusively refuted not only by the Turkish Cypriot side, but also by independent sources, including a prominent United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) expert and the relevant committee of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe.

It should be recalled that, in a letter he wrote to The Times of London, the respected UNESCO expert, Mr. Jacques Dalibard, denied Greek Cypriot allegations of systematic and organized looting of the cultural heritage of Cyprus. On the other hand, Mr. Ymenus van der Werff, General Rapporteur of the Subcommittee on Culture and Education of the Council of Europe, who had come to the island with a delegation of experts to study the situation regarding cultural property in both parts of the island, reported the following on this subject in paragraph 5.3 of his report, which was published as a document of the Council of Europe under the symbol AS/CULT/AA (41) 1: "We saw no churches destroyed, though St. George in Limnia (in the North) was listed as such."

Contrary to what is claimed, it is the Greek Cypriot side that has always tried to eradicate all traces of Turkish-Muslim heritage of Cyprus, in particular during the years between 1963 and 1974, when they attempted to "cleanse" the island of its ethnic Turkish population through massacre, expulsion and various methods of violence and oppression. As pointed out in a previous communication addressed to you on the subject (A/52/366-S/1997/724 of 18 September 1997), during this tragic period, mosques, shrines and other places of Muslim worship in 103 villages across the island were destroyed. Today, the Greek Cypriot administration is still perpetuating a policy of religious intolerance and showing undisguised contempt towards the Islamic heritage in South Cyprus. The following quotation on this subject taken from the aforementioned Council of Europe report (para. 5.3) reveals the extent of the blatant acts of desecration and wilful destruction of Ottoman Turkish architecture in South Cyprus:

"We noted with regret the complete destruction of the main mosque in Paphos. The whole area has since been flattened to give way for a widened road junction and a car park. There is no memorial to the existence of the mosque. Below the road a Turkish bath complex remains hidden in rubble and vegetation awaiting restoration. The Turkish Cypriot cemetery by the nearby St. Sophia Mouttalas mosque is dilapidated."

A recent case in point of the utter disrespect shown by the Greek Cypriot administration for the Turkish-Muslim heritage of Cyprus is the condition of the historic Omeriye Mosque in South Cyprus, which, according to the Greek Cypriot weekly Selides of 16 January 1998, is in a state of total neglect, its premises covered with piles of litter and its historic marble columns damaged and displaced. It will be recalled that this mosque, located in the Greek Cypriot sector of Nicosia, was the target of an arson attack in recent years that damaged its historic structure. The magazine reports the following:

"As we enter the mosque premises, the piles of rubbish stand out, as a stark reminder of the total neglect and insensitivity towards cultural heritage. I am sitting in front of the mosque ... hoping to see even a signboard giving information about this religious monument, but to no avail."

Regarding the allegations of "desecration" made in the said letter of the Greek Cypriot representative over the conversion of a number of churches into mosques or museums, it should be emphasized that conservation of historic buildings through use is not only permissible but also recommended under relevant international instruments. For instance, the Amsterdam Declaration, which was issued by the Congress on European Architectural Heritage in October 1975, states the following:

"It has been shown that the historic buildings can be given new functions related to the needs of contemporary life." (p. 7, para. 3)

"Local authorities should afford functions to buildings which, whilst respecting their character, correspond to the needs of contemporary life and thus ensure their survival." (p. 9, paras. 4 and 5)

"A policy of conservation also means the integration of the architectural heritage into social life." (p. 10, para. 5)

The same objectives are also expressed in the Charter of Venice, which was drawn up in May 1964 by the International Congress of Architects and Technicians on Historical Monuments.

In line with the above, the aforementioned Council of Europe report states the following (para. 5.3):

"In several cases the churches are used, whether as mosques or for other purposes ... Although the point is controversial, we find it difficult to criticize such reuse. As the Turkish Cypriots point out, it has been general Council of Europe policy for some time to urge reuse of redundant religious buildings."

The Turkish Cypriot side has done and is still doing everything within its rather limited means to preserve the cultural wealth of the island, so much of which is in evidence in Northern Cyprus. Turkish Cypriot authorities have been calling upon international bodies responsible for providing financial and technical assistance in the field to extend such assistance to Northern Cyprus with a view to bolstering its efforts towards the preservation of cultural heritage. The Greek Cypriot side, however, is sparing no effort in preventing these international organizations from extending any assistance to Northern Cyprus, a clear illustration of the hypocrisy and insincerity of the Greek Cypriot administration, which, on the one hand, complains repeatedly that sufficient care is not being taken and, on the other, does its utmost to prevent Northern Cyprus from obtaining the means to provide such care.

It is evident from the foregoing that the Greek Cypriot side's complaints regarding cultural property have no basis and are utterly unjustified. Since it is the Greek Cypriot side that has systematically attacked, destroyed or treated with utter disrespect cultural and religious monuments, places of worship and other elements of culture belonging to the Turkish-Muslim heritage of the island, the Greek Cypriot allegations on this issue appear to be an attempt to cover up their long-standing policy of religious intolerance.

I should be grateful if the text of the present letter could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 61, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Aytuğ PLÜMER
Representative
Turkish Republic of
Northern Cyprus

UNITED NATIONS **A S**

General Assembly
Security Council

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28 January 1998

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QUESTION OF CYPRUS

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-third year

Letter dated 28 January 1998 from the Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

In my previous letter of 19 September 1997, I had informed Your Excellency of my Government's deep concern regarding the escalating militarization campaign of the Greek Cypriot administration.

Under instructions, I wish to draw your attention once again to this military escalation in Southern Cyprus which has now reached a new stage as a result of the construction of the military airbase in Paphos, which has been completed and became operational as of 24 January 1998.

It is reported that the official inauguration of the airbase is to take place in March with the attendance of the Greek Defence Minister, Mr. Tsohatzopoulos.

The Greek Cypriot authorities have publicly declared that combat aircraft from Greece will be deployed on the airbase.

The arms build-up in Southern Cyprus has for a long time been assuming grave proportions. The Greek Cypriot administration has brought its current military expenditure to a level in excess of $2 million a day, which is in per capita terms among the highest in the world. Over recent years, T-80 and AMX-30 tanks and BMP-3 and Leonidas type armoured combat vehicles have been imported into Southern Cyprus. Despite the concerns expressed by the Security Council, the transaction for deploying S-300 missile systems remains in force.

The construction of the military airbase adds a highly destabilizing dimension to the military equation in the island and the region. Moreover, it

contravenes various Security Council resolutions calling upon the parties to refrain from any action which would exacerbate the situation.

It should also be noted that the 1960 Treaties of Guarantee and of Alliance, while providing the security of the Turkish and Greek Cypriot communities, stipulate that no threat could be directed from Cyprus against the security of the Guarantor Powers.

The current situation once again demonstrates that Greece and the Greek Cypriot administration completely and contemptuously ignore the 1960 Treaties.

The deployment of Greek combat aircraft in Southern Cyprus will create a very dangerous source of tension in the island. Bearing in mind the tragic events that occurred between 1963 and 1974, as a result of the use of armed force by the Greek/Greek Cypriot camp, the construction of an airbase and the deployment of Greek combat aircraft should be a cause of great concern not only for Turkey, but for all who take an interest in peace and stability in the island and in the region.

Following the decision to deploy S-300 missile systems in Southern Cyprus, the construction of the military airbase in Paphos for the stationing of Greek combat aircraft has brought the parties to the threshold of a crisis.

The Greek/Greek Cypriot camp will bear the responsibility for any development that may lead to undesirable consequences.

The Turkish Government will not remain indifferent in the face of provocative and hostile actions directed against the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus and Turkey, and will act as a Guarantor Power, in accordance with its Treaty rights and obligations, with a view to protecting the Turkish Cypriot people and preserving the balance between Turkey and Greece.

In the light of the gravity of this latest development, I hope that Your Excellency will do your utmost to impress upon the Greek/Greek Cypriot camp the importance of desisting from actions which threaten peace and security in Cyprus and in the Eastern Mediterranean.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of the present letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 61, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Hüseyin E. ÇELEM
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

UNITED
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Security Council

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Fifty-second session
Agenda item 19
ADMISSION OF NEW MEMBERS TO
THE UNITED NATIONS

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-third year

Letter dated 19 January 1998 from the Permanent Representatives of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Slovenia and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from our respective Governments, we should like to request your kind assistance in circulating the present letter and the attached letter from the four successor States of the former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, forwarded to you on 15 December 1997, as a document of the General Assembly under agenda item 19, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Muhamed SACIRBEY
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of
Bosnia and Herzegovina

(Signed) Naste ČALOSKI
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of
the Republic of Macedonia

(Signed) Ivan ŠIMONOVIĆ
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of
the Republic of Croatia

(Signed) Danilo TURK
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of
the Republic of Slovenia

ANNEX

Letter dated 15 December 1997 from the Permanent Representatives of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Slovenia and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

We have the honour to refer to Terminology Bulletin No. 347/Rev.1 (ST/CS/SER.F/347/Rev.1), issued by the United Nations Office of Conference and Support Services, Translation and Editorial Division, Documentation, Reference and Terminology Section, and in particular to item 191 of the list of States Members of the United Nations, members of the specialized agencies or parties t the Statute of the International Court of Justice and its corresponding endnote 17.

The Governments of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Republic of Croatia, the Republic of Macedonia and the Republic of Slovenia strongly object to the inclusion of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) in the list of States Members of the United Nations, members of specialized agencies o parties to the Statute of the International Court of Justice and to the use of the date of admission of the former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to the United Nations as the date of admission of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) to this Organization.

Item 191 and its corresponding endnote 17 in the above-mentioned terminology bulletin contravene the provisions of relevant resolutions of the Security Council (resolution 777 (1992) of 19 September 1992) and the General Assembly (resolution 47/1 of 22 September 1992) regarding the status of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) in the United Nations. Those resolutions, adopted by the "appropriate intergovernmental bodies" of the United Nations, stipulate that the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) cannot continue automatically the membership of the former Socialis Federal Republic of Yugoslavia in the United Nations and that it should apply for membership.

Until the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) complies with the requirements of the above-mentioned resolutions and, inter alia, applies for membership in the United Nations, it cannot be considered as a Stat Member of the United Nations. Similarly, the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) cannot be considered as a State member of the specialized agencies or a party to the Statute of the International Court of Justice.

We kindly request that the appropriate measures be taken to issue a corrigendum to Terminology Bulletin No. 347/Rev.1 (ST/CS/SER.F/347/Rev.1) and all previously issued terminology bulletins, which contain the same error, and therefore in that manner bring those documents in line with the relevant resolutions of the Security Council and the General Assembly.

(Signed) Muhamed SACIRBEY
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of
Bosnia and Herzegovina

(Signed) Naste ČALOSKI
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of
the Republic of Macedonia

(Signed) Ivan ŠIMONOVIĆ
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of
the Republic of Croatia

(Signed) Danilo TURK
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of
the Republic of Slovenia

UNITED
NATIONS

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General Assembly

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2 February 1998
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Fifty-second session
Agenda item 104

INTERNATIONAL DRUG CONTROL

Letter dated 30 January 1998 from the Permanent Representative of Uzbekistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text of the Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation to Control Illicit Production, Traffic and Abuse of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances and Their Precursors, signed on 4 May 1996 in Tashkent by the Governments of the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Republic of Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and the Republic of Uzbekistan and the United Nations International Drug Control Programme (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly under agenda item 104.

(Signed) Alisher VOHIDOV
Permanent Representative of
Uzbekistan to the United Nations

98-02159 (E) 030298 030298

ANNEX

Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation to Control Illicit Production, Traffic and Abuse of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances and Their Precursors

The Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic, the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan, the Government of Turkmenistan and the Government of the Republic of Uzbekistan (hereinafter referred to as "the Governments") and the United Nations International Drug Control Programme (hereinafter referred to as "the Programme"),

Expressing concern at the scale and continuing growth of the illicit production of, demand for and traffic in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances throughout the world, and also at the possibility of using the territories of the Central Asian States for the unlawful transit of narcotic drugs and precursors,

Disturbed by the growth in the use of narcotic drugs, particularly among young people,

Recognizing the serious threat posed by illicit traffic in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances to people's health and well-being, and its negative impact on the economic, cultural and moral foundations of society,

Acknowledging that illicit trafficking complicates the crime situation and is an international criminal activity the suppression of which requires coordinated efforts within the framework of international cooperation,

Bearing in mind the provisions of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol, the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971 and the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988,

Considering their common will to effectively combat illicit traffic in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances,

Have agreed as follows:

Article 1

The Governments reaffirm their commitment to fulfil the obligations they assumed with respect to national and international policy to control drug-trafficking through ratification and implementation of the provisions of the United Nations conventions on drug control of 1961, 1971 and 1988, and with respect to the establishment of inter-State coordinating bodies.

Article 2

The Governments shall take measures to carry out coordinated actions to develop a subregional programme for cooperation in the field of drug control in the following priority areas:

- Creation of a mechanism for coordinating cooperation at the political and operational levels;

- Harmonization of legislation to control drug-trafficking;

- Organization of national data-analysis centres and facilitation of the exchange of data and up-to-date information at the subregional level;

- Determination of the level of illicit demand for drugs, and exchange of experience in developing programmes for the effective prevention and cure of drug addiction;

- Implementation of joint actions to prevent the illicit import, export and transit of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors;

- Joint training of specialists;

- Organization and coordination of systems to control narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances used for legitimate purposes, as well as precursors, in accordance with the provisions of the United Nations conventions on drug control of 1961, 1971 and 1988.

Article 3

The Governments, bearing in mind each State's means and interests, shall provide political, financial and technical support for joint programmes on a shared basis.

Article 4

With a view to strengthening cooperation in carrying out joint activities, the Programme shall, when necessary, extend appropriate support by providing expert and technical assistance.

Article 5

The strategies, programmes and subregional projects developed in accordance with this Memorandum shall be subject to approval by the Governments and the Programme.

Article 6

1. The Governments shall hold annual meetings with the participation of plenipotentiaries of the Governments and the Programme with a view to summarizing the results of their joint actions and determining new (additional) forms of activity.

2. Each Government shall serve in turn as host of the annual meeting.

3. With the consent of the Governments and the Programme, representatives of other States or international organizations may participate in the meetings.

Article 7

By agreement between the Governments and the Programme, this Memorandum may be supplemented in order to broaden the kinds of joint actions to control traffic in narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors.

Article 8

Other States or international organizations may accede to this Memorandum by notifying the Programme of their intention to do so. The Programme shall, within one month, inform all the Governments that signed the Memorandum of such intention.

Decisions with respect to accession shall be taken at the annual meeting by unanimous approval of the Governments and the Programme, and shall enter into force on the date of their adoption.

Article 9

1. Each Government may denounce this Memorandum by submitting written notice to the Programme, which shall so inform all Governments parties to this Memorandum.

2. If one of the Governments denounces this Memorandum, the Memorandum shall cease to have effect for that Government following the expiry of six months from the date on which notice of denunciation was sent.

3. If this Memorandum ceases to have effect for one or all Governments, its provisions shall remain in force with respect to joint programmes begun prior to the date on which the denunciation of this Memorandum took effect.

Article 10

1. This Memorandum shall enter into force on the date of its signature.

2. This Memorandum is drawn up in six copies, each in the Russian and English languages, both texts being equally authentic.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the undersigned, duly authorized representatives of their Governments, have signed this Memorandum.

DONE at Tashkent on 4 May 1996.

For the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan:

[Illegible]

For the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic:

[Illegible]

For the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan:

[Illegible]

For the Government of Turkmenistan:

[Illegible]

For the Government of the Republic of Uzbekistan:

[Illegible]

For the United Nations International Drug Control Programme:

[Illegible]